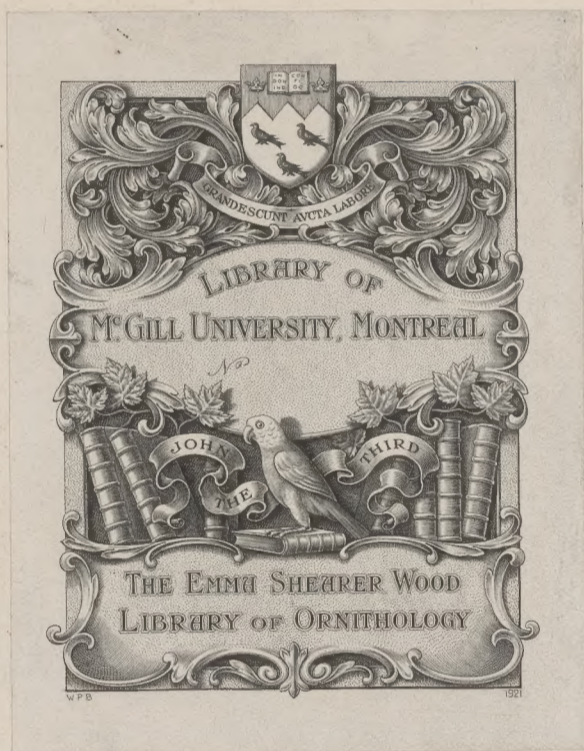


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DR. CASEY WOOD,
AUTHOR'S CLUB,
LONDON, S. W. 1
ENGLAND.

Bird Portraits by J. W. Lewin, author and artist. ⁽¹⁸²²⁾ of the "Birds
of New South Wales", ^{he} was the son of William
Lewin who died in 1795. The latter wrote and
illustrated "The Birds of Great Britain" 1789-94.
In this volume there are ^{also} paintings of
birds by R. Lewin (? lady) and of eggs
(3 pictures) by Wm King, 1763 & 2.

From the library of Lucy Countess of Egmont
London, July 19. 27.

Dr. GABBY WOOD,
AUTHOR'S CLUB,
8, WHITEHALL COURT,
LONDON, ENGLAND.





from Brazil a non-descript Finch -

DR. CAREY HODGKIN,
AUTHOR OF "THE
W. WHITEHEAD & CO.
LONDON, 1880."

III.



Great Titmouse (*Parus major*).

W. WHITEHEAD & CO.

DR. CASEY WOOD,
AUTHOR'S CLUB,
2, WHITEHALL COURT,
LONDON, ENGLAND.

IV.



Yellow Wagtail
Motacilla flava

J.W. Lewin. 1798

DR. CAREY WOOD,
AUTHOR'S CLUB,
21, WHITEHALL COURT,
LONDON, ENGLAND.

V.



FWLewin. N.S.W. 1800.

White-cheeked Honey-eater (Purnellornis niger).

WM. BIRBY WOOD,
AUTHOR'S CLUB,
2, WHITEHALL COURT,
LONDON, ENGLAND.

VI.



Chaffinch (*Fringilla caelebs*).

FWLewin. 1798

VII.

DR. CASEY WOOD,
AUTHOR'S CLUB,
2, WHITEHALL COURT,
LONDON, ENGLAND.



I.W. Lewin. N.S.W. 1800. White-cheeked Honey-eater (*Purnellornis niger*).

VIII.





Non Descript from Brazil

X.



Stouchebat (*Sociola forsteri hibernica*).

JW Lewin 1798

XI.



House Finch (Rhipidura cantabrigiae).

FWLewin. 1798

XII.



Red-horned Finch (*Ammodramus temporalis*).
(Asian-bell)

DR. J. H. ...
ALFRED ...
S. WHITNEY ...
LONDON, ...

XIII.



J. W. ...
British Coal Titmouse (Parus ater britannicus), 1907

XIV.



Regilla Anasili (Anasilia Davidi).
See Gould's Trochilidae, Vol. V, pl. 312.

JW Lewin. 1798-

Humming Bird farnacia



The yellow breasted Tanager - from the East Indies.



XVI.

Crested Flycatcher (Linnæus - Bodd.)
Turdus leucotis.

PLATE



Very descript from Brazil.



from Brazil - non descript Finch



Specimen from New Zealand

XX.



Dominican Cardinal

(*T. roaria dominicana*).

JW. Lewin . 1798 .

Cardinal South America -

XXI.



Bobolink (*Dolichonyx oryzivorus*).

J.W. Lewin. 1898

Blue Bird of the Americas



The wax-bill finch -

XXIII.



Blue-breasted Vireo
(Vireo americanus).

W. L. G. 1726

The blue-breasted Vireo

XXIV.



XXV.



Great Titmouse (Parus major).

XXVI.



THE DUNDEE SOCIETY
PUBLISHED BY
J. DUNDEE, 1840



Rufous-backed Cinclous
(Cinclous rufus)

XXVIII.

D^r. OAKY WOOD.
AUTHOR'S CLUB.
2. WHITEHALL COURT.
LONDON, ENGLAND.



XXIX.



House Martin (*Hirundo rustica*)





Red-breasted Goose (*Branta ruficollis*).

DR. CASEY WOOD,
AUTHOR'S CLUB,
2, WHITEHALL GARDEN,
LONDON, ENGLAND.



Brambling (*Fringilla montifringilla*).
(Autumn and Winter plumage).

XXXIII.



Baldwin Marsh-Titmouse (*Tyrus balustius drassari*).

Wm. Brewster.

XXXIV.



House Martin (*Hirundo rustica*).

(*Hirundo rustica*)

1.

Dr. J. G. ...
AUTHOR ...
D. W. ...
LONDON. ...



Turdus viscivorus.
Mistle Bird.

11

THE QUEEN'S
MUSEUM
LONDON.



W. Lewin 1844

Turdus iliacus.
Red wing.

DR. GARY WOOD,
A. W. S. DEUS
S. WHITEHALL COURT,
LONDON, ENGLAND.

III.



L. H. H. H. H.

Picus viridis
Green Woodpecker

IV.



Nitta europaea

H. V. 1846

9.11



II



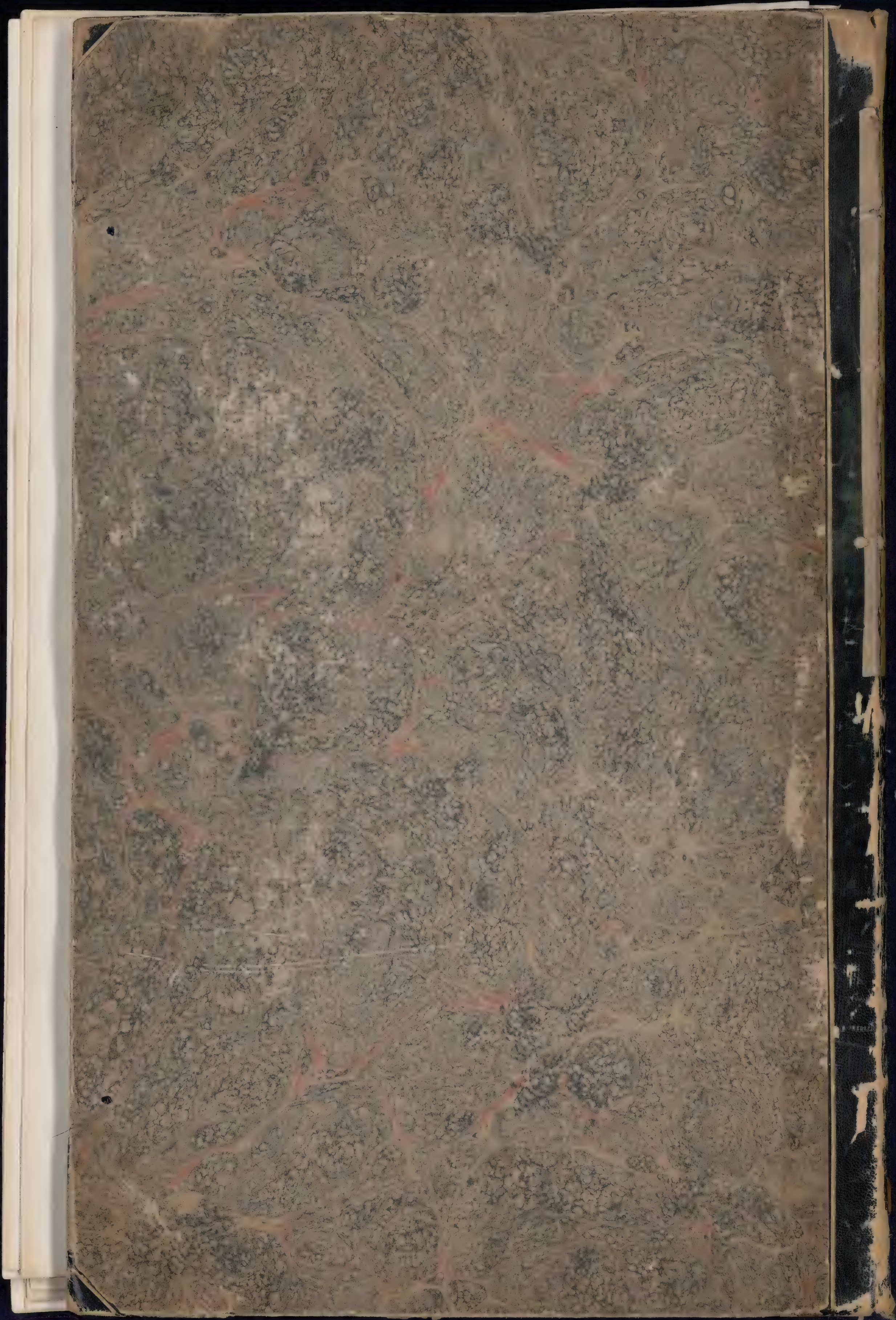
Boxing 1763

III.

DR. CAREY WOOD,
AUTHOR'S CLUB,
21, WHITEHALL GALLERY,
LONDON, ENGLAND.



From the Library of the
British Museum, London





OFFICE OF
THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR THE
COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA,
OTTAWA.

Reply quote No. 33/12/3/49

JOHN WILLIAM LEWIN

John William Lewin, born in 1770, first appears in connection with Australia when the Duke of Portland, in a despatch to Governor Hunter dated February 6, 1798, mentioned that Lewin was to go to Sydney in H.M.S. Buffalo and added:-

"Mr. Lewin is a painter and drawer in natural history, and being desirous of pursuing his studies in a country which cannot fail to improve that branch of knowledge you will allow him the usual Government rations during his residence in the settlement."

Hunter, in a despatch dated August 15, 1799, mentions the arrival of the Buffalo on May 3, 1799, but says nothing of Lewin.

When the general muster of inhabitants of the colony was taken on from July 18 to August 15, 1800, Lewin appears as "natural history painter and botanist, employed at Parramatta, Toon-gabbie and George's River, all places near Sydney."

In his instructions, dated at Sydney March 5, 1801, to Lieutenant James Grant R.N. for a surveying voyage to Bass Straits in the brig Lady Nelson, accompanied by the 11-ton sloop Bee Governor King wrote:-

"I have allowed Mr. Lewin to embark on board the Bee, for the purpose of collecting, to whom you will afford such occasional assistance.

as may be in your power."

Four days after sailing from Sydney, when the vessels had reached Jervis Bay, the Bee was found unsuitable for a tender and was sent back to Sydney. Apparently Lewin came with her.

When Grant took the Lady Nelson to examine the Hunter River in June 1801 Lewin went with the party. Lieut-Colonel Paterson, in his Journal, mentions that Lewin went with him up the river in the launch. Under the date July 7 Paterson wrote:-

"Mr. Lewin remained with me at the hut preserving birds that were shot the day before and collecting wood to keep up a fire for the night.

In a letter to Sir Joseph Banks dated August 21, 1801, but apparently begun in March or April King refers to sending George Caley, a collector for Banks, to the Kent Group in a sealing vessel and adds:-

"I have persuaded a Mr. Lewin, who I believe you know, to accompany him."

Nothing more seems to be known of this voyage which was, according to King's letter, made while the Lady Nelson was being refitted for the voyage to the Hunter River.

Lewin sailed on the 56-ton brig Norfolk (originally the Harbinger, built at Quebec in 1797) which sailed for Tahiti on November 8, 1801, to seek a cargo of pork. The Norfolk was wrecked at Matavai Bay on March 25, 1802. In his log Captain House of the Norfolk writes:-

"Every assistance in the power of all parties was given and the Natives kept from Thieving by Mr. Lewin and Pulpit, one of Captain Bishop's men(of the brig Venus) who took everything under their care as they came

ashore, they being armed for the said purpose; and about dark in the evening everything was housed that came on shore."

Lewin returned to Sydney in H.M.S. Porpoise, which reached Port Jackson on December 19, 1802.

A return dated March 17, 1804, shows Lewin as a private in the Parramatta Volunteer Company, formed to meet the threat of a rebellion of the Irish convicts. By August 1, 1804, Lewin had risen to the rank of sergeant.

In a despatch to Lord Camden, dated November 1, 1805, Governor King states that he had sent Mr. Lewin and two other persons that he could confide in to "take the round of the Cowpastures and report the Number of Cattle they met with". These cattle were the descendants of cattle which had been lost and run wild soon after the founding of the colony in 1788. He says that Lewin and his companions counted upwards of 800, "besides the Numerous herds they saw and could not count". From the reports of Lewin and others King concluded that there could not have been fewer than 3,000 wild cattle at the beginning of 180⁵ and might well have been many more.

In a letter from Sydney to Under-Secretary Chapman of the Colonial Office, London, dated October 15, 1807, Deputy-Commissary Robert Fitz, wrote:-

etc "Lewin, the naturalist, is now collecting a box of seeds of the plants ~~etc.~~ of the country, which I shall send to you by the earliest conveyance."

When ^Ppaterson was expected in Sydney to take over the government which had been nominally in the hands of Major Johnston since the deposition of Governor William (Bounty) Bligh Lewin was one of those who signed an

address to Paterson, dated at Hawkesbury River, May 1, 1808. The signers pledged themselves to give Paterson every support in re-establishing His Majesty's Government in the person of Governor Bligh "whom we have reason to adore for that protection and justice we experienced under his firm and steady Government". Paterson did not, however, reach Sydney from Tasmania till January 1, 1809.

On November 17, 1812, Governor Macquaire told Lord Liverpool that he had omitted in his previous despatch to report the appointment of Lewin as Coroner at Sydney, at pounds 40 a year, with Lewin and his family victualled from the King's stores. By June 1, 1815, Lewin's salary as Coroner had been raised to pounds 80 a year.

Writing to Lord Bathurst on December 15, 1817, Governor Macquarie mentions that he is sending to London more than 500 specimens of dried plants collected on Oxley's expedition to the interior and goes on:-

"Four of these Specimens were considered so rich and beautiful by the Persons who Collected them that I have on their Suggestion been Induced to get Drawings made of them by the Masterly hand of Mr. Lewin, the Gentleman whom Your Lordship mentioned in a late Dispatch as a person who might be useful in the voyage of Discovery under Lieut. King. These Drawings being made whilst the Plants retained some Share of their natural Beauty and immediately under the Eye and Direction of the Botanists who collected them their Colours and Peculiarities have been well preserved and will convey a much more perfect Idea of the Plants themselves than could possibly be obtained from a bare Inspection of the dried Specimens, especially after so long a Voyage as they are about to undergo; these Drawings I do myself the Honor to transmit to Your Lordship, as likewise one of a

Native Chief at Bathurst, whom having myself seen on My Visit to the Western country (in 1815) I can Vouch for its being an excellent Likeness. The Tourists having met with a new Description of Cockatoo and Doves nearly at the termination of the River Lachlan, as beautiful in appearance as rare I do myself the Honor to send Your Lordship a Drawing of them also.

"Mr. Lewin, to whose Pencil I am indebted on this occasion, has begged leave to decline the Duty Your Lordship had proposed to honor him with on the Voyage of Discovery with Mr. King, He having a Family at Sydney that he could not Sufficiently provide during his absence, his and their Principal Support arising from his Employment as an Artist, in which Capacity, Especially as it is applied to the Description of Animals and Vegetables he is here considered to possess most uncommon Merit.

"While on the Subject, if Your Lordship should be disposed to consider as favorably of Mr. Lewin's Talents in the Line of an Artist as I have long been I would beg leave to suggest that possibly those Talents might be most Usefully Employed here in the service of Government exclusively".

After mentioning that the drawings had been entrusted to the Personal care of Captain Gill of the ship Harriet Macquarie concludes:-

"Until I shall hear from Your Lordship I shall continue to employ Mr. Lewin, as occasion may Offer, in making Drawings of such rare Productions as the New Accessions in the Western Country may afford, which I hope will be agreeable to Your Lordships wishes."

Lewin's drawing of the Bathurst chief was reproduced in John Oxley's "Journals of Two Expeditions". The new birds mentioned by Macquarie were the barred shouldered ground dove (*Geopelia himeralis*) and Leadbeater's cockatoo (*Cacatua leadbeateri*). In answering Macquarie's letter Lord Bathurst

made no reference to Lewin. In a letter written on December 21 and sent by the Harriet Macquarie mentioned that the Mermaid, under Lieut. King, had sailed that day to chart the coasts of Australia And that Allan Cunningham, the King's Botanist, had gone in her. He adds:- "Mr. Lewin, the Natural History Painter, declined going on this Expedition on account of having a family to provide for."

Lewin was one of many merchants and others who on November 19, 1818, signed a Memorial to Macquarie deprecating the prohibition imposed by London on the carriage of goods or merchandize to Australia in convict ships. Macquarie agreed with the petitioners and suspended the prohibitory order until further instructions should be received.

On March 25, 1819, Macquarie advised Bathurst that he was sending by the Shipley a case containing eight drawings by Lewin of animals, birds and plants collected by Charles Fraser, the Colonial Botanist, during Oxley's second expedition. He describes Lewin as "an eminent Artist here". This time Macquarie enclosed a detailed list of the subjects. Four were plants, three birds and the eighth a "red Kangaroo". No acknowledgement by Bathurst appears in the Historical Records.

Lewin died in Sydney on August 27, 1819. A pension of pounds 50 was given to his widow. On February 28, 1820, Macquarie advised Bathurst that Edward Smith Hall had been appointed Coroner at Sydney "in the Room of Mr. Lewin deceased".

Soon after he reached Sydney Macquarie had sent to Lord Castlereagh, the maker of the Treaty of Vienna, a painting of Sydney by Lewin.

Before Macquarie's time art was not a way of living in New South Wales. In 1808, when Lewin advertised himself as a portrait and miniature

painter Mrs. Lewin had to keep an inn and a shop. In 1812 Lewin opened an Academy of Painting in Sydney.

Lewin no doubt drew the coloured plate of a fringe-crested cockatoo and the picture of the Lady Nelson entering the Hunter River which appears in Lieutenant James Grant's "Narrative of a Voyage of Discovery", published in London in 1803.

The "Prodromus Entomology - Natural History of Lepidoterous Insects of New South Wales, Collected, engraved and faithfully painted after nature by John William Lewin A.L.S. of Parramatta, New South Wales" was "Printed for the Author and Published from the hand of his brother Thomas Lewin, No. 3 Agnes Circus, Old Street, London, of whom it may be had" in 1805. It has 18 plates, drawn and engraved in Australia. The purpose of the book was "to furnish the Author with the means of returning to England".

Of Lewin's 1808 "Birds of New Holland" only six copies are known to exist, according to J. A. Ferguson's:- Bibliography of Australia, vol. 1 (1784 - 1830). Of these two are in the British Museum, one at McGill, ^{not at McGill} one in the library of the South Australian branch of the Royal Geographical Society and two in the National Library, Canberra. The list of subscribers is said to have included 67 in Australia (among them Governor Bligh, John Macarthur and John Oxley) and six in England. An advertisement in the Sydney Gazette of November 20, 1808 announced the expected appearance of the copies for Australia "in the next arrival" but none of them appears to have reached Australia. It has been thought that they were lost at sea.

Ferguson lists only six copies of Lewin's "Birds of New South Wales" published in Sydney by George Howe in 1813. The 1822 edition,

issued in London, was entitled:- "A Natural History of the Birds of New South Wales". Lewin's work on insects was republished in London at the same time.

A note in the 1838 edition, issued in London by Henry G. Bohn, states that the "whole of the Plates had been carefully and accurately coloured from specimens obligingly lent for that purpose by Mr. Gould".

BOOK COLLECTORS' SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA

B I B L I O N E W S

November, 1953.

Monthly Letter to Members

Vol. 6 No. 11

JOHN WILLIAM LEWIN

A MEMOIR

by

PHYLLIS MANDER JONES, B.A.

Soon after the foundation of the first settlement at Port Jackson, the new land attracted many naturalists, some of the first rank, some less renowned, but all inspired by a spirit of adventure and love of scientific exploration. Of this company John William Lewin is especially noteworthy for book collectors because he produced two books, which are among the rarest of early publications connected with Australia. One is a book on insects and the other a book on birds and both are of great bibliographical interest.

Lewin was not an eminent scientist and was one of those who came to the new land hoping to improve his circumstances as well as to further the interests of science. It was not from choice that he remained here till his death without revisiting England. He stayed because the opportunity to return was not given him. He died in Sydney nineteen and a half years after his arrival.

Lewin's private papers do not appear to have been preserved and British official sources, except those in the Public Record Office, have not been examined for data on his life before coming to Australia. The following account relies on published references and on manuscript sources in the Mitchell Library, Sydney, some of the latter, copies of papers in the Department of Entomology of the British Museum.

We know very little of his life before he set sail from New Holland in 1799. The inscription on his tombstone gives his age as fortynine when he died in August 1819, so he was probably born in 1770. He was married in England, perhaps not long before deciding to come out, for no children are mentioned at this time. The Dictionary of National Biography speaks of him as a brother of William Lewin, naturalist, Fellow of the Linnaean Society and author of *The Birds of Great Britain*, first published in seven volumes from 1789 to 1794, and reissued in a second edition in eight volumes 1795-1801. In his preface William Lewin informs us that "The figures of the Birds were painted from the most perfect specimens of the subjects, and engraved by the Author: the natural history was chiefly composed from original observations, by himself and his sons..." Glancing through the volumes of the second edition (the only one I have been able to see) one notices plates by J.W. Lewin, T.W. Lewin and T. Lewin as well as by W. Lewin himself. The inference is that his sons helped not only with the text but with the plates, which in this edition bear the date of publication, 1793, when our John William would have been twentythree. The plates signed J.W. Lewin are immature in technique compared with the work of W. Lewin and with J.W. Lewin's later work but the similarity in style is evident. Indeed many authorities give John William as a son, not a brother of William Lewin.

From the Dictionary of National Biography we learn that William Lewin was living at Darenth in Kent in 1791 and at Hoxton in 1794. We can therefore think of John William as a young man in his father's home in Kent and in London. While working on plates for his father's *Birds of Great Britain* he was probably known to the Duke of Portland, for many of the plates of eggs are signed "J.W. Lewin delineavit et sculpsit", and the elder Lewin tells us in his preface that he had access to the collection of birds' eggs "formerly in the possession of that distinguished patroness of natural history, the late Duchess Dowager of Portland." The Duchess to whom he refers was before her marriage

the Lady Margaret Cavendish Harley, only daughter and heiress of the 2nd Earl of Oxford. She died in 1785.

The connection with the Duke of Portland possibly had something to do with the Duke's recommendation of John William Lewin to Governor Hunter, dated 6th February, 1798 and sent on the Brittania. This despatch gives Lewin's reasons for coming to New South Wales. Hunter is informed that "the Brittania will be almost immediately followed by the Buffalo, armed ship..." and that on her will sail "Mr. Lewin...a painter and drawer in natural history...desirous of pursuing his studies in a country which cannot fail to improve that branch of knowledge." Hunter is instructed to "allow him the usual Government rations, during his residence in the settlement."

Lewin did not sail on the Buffalo. We have the statement of the Reverend Richard Johnson (x) that he missed the ship, and that his wife, Maria, who was already on board, was much distressed. She "burst into a flood of tears" and begged the Captain Mr. Raven, for advice. The Captain "advised her to stay on Board, and promised to do everything he cd to render her situation more comfortable, & said he wd never lose sight of her, till she again met her Husband." From these circumstances arose Lewin's first difficulties when he reached New South Wales on the 11th January, 1800. His wife had been accused of imprudent conduct with the second mate, Mr. Mackin, and there ensued a long drawn out law case which the Lewins apparently won. The Rev. Richard Johnson bears eloquent testimony in surviving records of the proceedings, to Maria Lewin's character. After arriving on the Buffalo on May 3rd, 1799, she stayed with Captain and Mrs. Raven until August 22nd, then with the Johnsons awaiting her husband's coming, and was introduced and accepted in the best society of the colony.

Returning to Lewin's preparations for departure from England, we find that besides the Duke of Portland, the Right Honourable Lady Arden was his patron. To her Lewin dedicated his first book on Australian natural history, the *Prodromus Entomology*, 1805, in the following terms. "To the right Hon. Lady Arden, Madam, In grateful remembrance of that goodness which gave the Author an opportunity of employing his talents, as it were, in a new world, permit me to address this small Volume to your Ladyship, as the first fruit of much labour..." Clearly Lady Arden had acted on his behalf and we note that she was one of the subscribers to the first edition of the *Birds of New Holland* in 1808. Her copy came into the possession of Mr. S.W. Silver, whose library from his home, York Gate, is now in the Library of the Royal Geographical Society of Australasia (South Australian Branch) in Adelaide.

Another patron was the entomologist Dru Drury Esq., a gentleman of over seventy years of age in the 1790's, when Lewin came into contact with him. He was a naturalist, who financed many collectors. The Dowager Duchess of Portland had subscribed to his fund for Henry Smeathman, so that we have in Drury another link between Lewin and the Portland Collection. Charles Hamilton Smith's *Memoir of Dru Drury*, prefaced to volume XV of the *Naturalist's Library* edited by Sir William Jardine, contains the following passage (pp32-3). "It was Drury's practice, whenever he became acquainted with anyone about to visit a foreign country and willing to take some trouble in collecting insects, to supply him with a series of boxes...forceps, nets, &c. as well as written instructions how to proceed, promising at the same time to defray all the expense that might be incurred, and reward the collector in a manner proportionate to the value of his acquisitions. The number of those who were thus induced to offer their services was very great, and they were scattered over almost every country of

(x) N.S.W. Supreme Court -- Old papers transferred to the Mitchell Library. Bundle 29, item 33.

the globe...To save the trouble of furnishing written instructions to so many different parties, he drew up and printed 'Directions for collecting Insects in Foreign Countries.' These were translated into several languages, and extensively distributed among the natives of different quarters of the globe." C.H. Smith gives the text of these interesting directions in full. It was probably a copy of them to which Lewin referred in a letter to Drury dated 7th March, 1803, "Your Directions for Collecting is the most Compleat one I ever saw and I do assure you that I shall reap much Bennefit from them."

Smith tells us something of Lewin's connection with Drury. On page fortysix of his memoir he says, "An individual to whom Drury showed much kindness, in the hope of being supplied through his means with the insects of New South Wales, was J.W. Lewin ...Thomas Mersham, author of the Entomologica Britannica, and Alexander Macleay, afterwards united with Drury in advancing money to Lewin while he was at Botany Bay, expecting the value to be returned to them in insects."

Dru Drury, member of an ancient family (Drury Lane may have derived its name from them) was the son of a silversmith of Wood Street, Cheapside, London. He became Goldsmith to the Queen and Cutler to the King and removed to the Strand. After business reverses and a quick recovery he retired in 1789. In 1797 he removed to Turnham Green near Brentford in Middlesex, was residing there when Lewin wrote to him from New South Wales between 1800 and 1803 and died there in January 1804. The Mitchell Library has photostats of Lewin's letters to him, the originals of which are in the Department of Entomology of the British Museum. I shall return to them when giving some account of Lewin's life in New South Wales, but it is worth noticing at this point a few sheets of memoranda which accompany the letters. On these sheets are lists of items advanced to Lewin by Drury. Several lists appear to be rough drafts but there is one entitled, "Invoice of Goods delivd. on board the Buffalo for Mr. J.W. Lewin, the returns to be made in Insects from Port Jackson 1798 March 22." It is endorsed, "Received March 27th 1798 of Mr. Drury all the goods mentioned in the above Invoice for which I promise to return him a Collection of Insects of equal value from Port Jackson in New South Wales as soon as possibly I can, Witness my Hand. J.W. Lewin"(x). A further note signed by Lewin acknowledges the receipt of £5 from D. Drury and at the base is the inscription. "This paper you must sign & return it back to me & post directing it to Mr. D. Drury Senr. at No. 32 Strand."

The items delivered to Lewin include "A Long barreld Gun 6 feet in the barrel £4.4.0", "2 Nests long chip boxes 4/-", "A neat Mahogany Cabinet glazed corked & papered for 24 drawers £4.4.0. In the drawers of this cabinet are a metal gilt neat compass Seal & a small pocket magnifier 6/-", "Cash advanced at 2 diff't times £17, My Note given to Wittow for 52 Copper Plates dated March 24 at 3 M^o £11," "Paid carrge & Waterage of the Goods to the Ship at Deptford 15/-", etc. etc. to the total of £51.10.6. The items give us a picture of the paraphernalia of a naturalist setting out for the other side of the world in 1798.

As explained above, Lewin for some reason missed the Buffalo, but on arrival in Sydney on the Minerva on January 11th, 1800, he did not immediately set to work to repay his debt to Drury. In a letter written from Parramatta and dated September 29th, 1800 he excuses his delay by explaining that he had to contend with an "unfortunate Business" (doubtless the law case about his wife) and says that he was "taken with the flux which had well nigh carried me off & did not get the better of it for near six months which & the winter setting in prevented me from making such a

(x) The signature only is in Lewin's handwriting.

Collection as I could wish for you." The whole letter throws light on Lewin's activities and plans. He says he is sending a painting of a "New Species of lilly" from "Bottany Bay", which he thinks will "pay for the trouble of publishing as it is a most wonderful plant & perfectly New. I should have Engraved it myself but had no Copper big enough." He suggests that if Drury does not publish it he send the drawing to Stockholm to Dr. Sparrman as a present to the Society Museum but relies entirely on Drury's "supream judgement." This letter ends with a list of "prices of Different European Articalls in the Colony." Tea per lb. £8, sugar 5/-, butter 5/-, soap 6/- etc. and a postscript that Mrs Lewin desires to be remembered.

A long letter dated 7th March, 1803, apologises for further delay in sending insects and in writing. All these letters, by the way, show that Lewin cannot have been educated in grammar and spelling. "I have Making this opertunity", he writes, "to send you a box of Insects Marked D. Drury, Strand London some of which are the produce of Otaheite collected by myself. The reason that I have not wrote before I must candidly acknowledge & if it will not excuse it will at least palliate some of the neglect it (is) this When the Ship Royall Admirall commanded by Capn Wilson came into this Harbour in 1801 I went on board to enquire for letters &c from you & received for answer that there was none. & after some enquiry I found that Captn Wilson had a number of boxes &c for collecting insects which he showed me & telling me at the same time that Dr. D. Drury had commission him to purchase all the insects that I had colected for you at which I was not a little suprizd." Lewin goes on to explain that he sent 480 insects by Captain Wilson, for which the captain paid him, but that he had determined not to send any more till he heard from Drury "& my not being in this country", he continues, "when your last letter &c came has been the reason of my not writing to you before..." Lewin's doubts of Captain Wilson's bona fides were probably unfounded for C.H. Smith (op. cit. p. 64) cites a written agreement between a Captain Wilson and Drury for the collecting of gold bearing gravel from foreign rivers, a project which was one of Drury's interests. He must have written to Lewin about it for Lewin says in the letter of March 7th. "I hope you will never mention any more in your letters about gold; and sorry enough I am that ever such a thought entered into my head; but enough of that subject, for I am really sick of it; for had it not been for those ideas, or rather dreams, I never should have gone to Otaheite in search of pearls, where I very nigh lost my life; for the vessel I went in was stranded on the Beach, on Point Venus, where she was entirely lost in a heavy gale of wind which lasted five Days; & that was not the only misfortune for after we got on shore we had the natives to fight, for they were at war with the party who were our friends. So that for the nine months we were on the Island, we were continually alarmed with the Dreadful Ideas of our having our throats cut; & I have not the least doubt that we should have been all massacred, and the mission entirely Destroyed, or at least forced to fly to the other Island at the risk of being Drowned, only for a few of us whō well knew the use of fire- arms... Those few Insects that I have sent you was collected at the imminent hazed of my life so that all the time I was forced to stop on the Island was lost." This is the most graphic description we have of Lewin's Tahiti adventure. He had sailed on the brig Norfolk when she left Sydney in November 1801 to procure salt pork for the settlement. The party were at last rescued by the Porpoise which was on the same mission and returned to Sydney on December 19th, 1802.

The same letter contains information on Lewin's difficulties in collecting insects in New South Wales where conditions differ, he tells Drury, from those in England. He answers Drury's enquiry whether he has "a beating sheet". "I must inform you about this country & you will find that Insects is not to be be got here as att home for in all my trialls with the Sheet by beating I never could get here Caterpillars of full Boddied Moths for the trees are so exceedingly high that it is but few that you can reach with a long pole & I have not found it answer by beating the Shrubs round

BOOK COLLECTORS' SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA

BIBLIONEWS

ERRATA slip for Monthly Letter to Members, Vol.6, No.11, November 1953 -

JOHN WILLIAM LEWIN: A MEMOIR BY PHYLLIS MANDER JONES

- p.40 1.2 "can" should read "came"
11.33-9 ... "We must presume that he returned with the Bee." See also Bibliography, p.13, 1801-8.
Banks Papers.- Copy of King's Orders to Grant 9th March, 1801. Lewin to accompany
Grant as collector on Bee. (Marginal note: "Not sent"), Vol. 7, p.115
- p 41, 1.6 "route" should read "rout"
1.24 In the entry in the 1814 Muster the figure "2" may be altered to "1"
1.24 "mention" should read "mentioned"
- p.42, 1.3 "eight" should read "eighth"
1.15 "Text" should read "text"
1.30 "Book" should read "book"

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B i b l i o N e w s.

Vol. 6 No. 11.

a wood & I was at a loss to know where to look for the larvae of the moths for a great while after that I came here for I never could find any in all my different travels into the country but now my surprise is at an end & dare to say yours will be the same when I inform you I doubt not but will be greatly pleased to hear that I have twenty (20) Drawings with the larvae & chrysalis & moths complete for engraving which feed by night & secret themselves by gnawing a hole either in the Body of the tree, and also the Branches & there lay hide all the Day..." Then follows a little further on in this long letter a passage of great interest. "In regard to publishing the Insects of this Country I most heartily join with you & of course will exert my utmost to get finished the first volume that I have begun...some of the Drawings I made nearly two years ago so that I had made great progress before I was informed your Ideas on making a supplement to your work on Insects...I thank you sincerely for your advice & shall act accordingly & of course I shall publish with your kind assistance the Insects first & I intend to print fifty Coppeys of the Insects & send them home & while they are (on) the passage to you I shall go about the Birds which you would have had long before this as I had engraved a number of the plates." It seems, reading these lines, that it was Drury's advice which led Lewin to finish his work on insects first although he had thought of doing that on birds. It appears too that some of the plates of the birds were engraved before he began to engrave the plates of the insects. (x)

Continuing his letter Lewin thanks Drury for "getting me made an associate of the Linian Society", mentions he had been short of printing ink but has found a way of making it so that he desires particularly copper plates, well secured in the packing, and paper. He acknowledges the receipt of these articles among many others and discourages Drury from any venture in "Haberdashery", "alas the times are strangely altered since I gave you that information for there has been so many ships in this port since I wrote you that the market is overstocked."

The last of the four letters from Lewin to Drury in this collection of papers, is dated August 6th, 1803. It reiterates his want of copper plates and paper. But Drury died in 1804 and the correspondence ceased.

Lewin had a couple of voyages on the Australian coast before he sailed for Tahiti. He seems to have been anxious to see as much as possible of this part of the world so it is probable that he embraced the opportunity when Governor King arranged for him to be a passenger on the decked long boat, the Bee, which was to accompany the Lady Nelson to Bass Strait under the command of Lieutenant James Grant. The Bee did not however reach Bass Strait. She sailed out of Sydney Heads with the Lady Nelson on March 8th, 1801, but by the 10th it was blowing a freshening wind from the south and the Bee, not being able to keep up, was ordered to return to Port Jackson. Grant's remarks on the voyage contain no reference to Lewin and we must presume that he returned with the Bee. In June and July of 1801 he was again with Grant on a voyage to explore the Hunter River. We have drawings made on this expedition.

After his return from Tahiti, Lewin lived at Parramatta and was in or near the former town during 1803 and 1804. A rough record of "day sales" kept by Rowland Hassall at Parramatta during these years lists many purchases by him or his wife, 3 hanks of sewing silk at 3/-, 2½ dozen buttons at 6/3, a pair of long boots at £2. We hear of his farm in this district and he must have been much occupied at this time with the drawings and engravings for the London editions of the *Prodromus Entomology* of 1805 and the *Birds* of 1808. He enrolled in 1804 as a private in the Parramatta

(x) cf. also below, p. 41. where watermarks in various copies are discussed.

Associated Company, called the Parramatta Loyal Association by 1805, in which year Lewin is listed as a sergeant. We know from the correspondence with Dru Drury that he used to make trips into the country and about 1804 he made long excursions for Governor King to discover the approximate numbers of the herds of escaped cattle. There is in the King Papers in the Mitchell Library a document entitled "Lewin's route & map". Journeys to the Nattai from Prospect and the Hawkesbury are shown and annotated in Lewin's hand with remarks relating chiefly to wild cattle. The remarks are quoted in enclosure five to King's despatch to Earl Camden dated November, 1st, 1805.

Some time in 1808 the Lewins moved to Sydney. The title-page of the 1808 edition of the Birds states that the drawings have been "engraved and faithfully painted after nature by John William Lewin, A.L.S. of Parramatta, New South Wales.", but when advertising in the Sydney Gazette on November 20th, 1808, that he is expecting the arrival of copies for Australian subscribers, Lewin gives his address as No. 44, Chapel Row, the present Castlereagh Street, Sydney. Very soon the address changes. On June 25th 1809, there is a report in the Sydney Gazette of a robbery at his home "in the Brickfields". This house is said to have been a two-storied one with a tiled roof, standing on the eastern side of George Street, between the present Bathurst and Liverpool Streets. (x) The family income must have been inadequate. In September 1808 Lewin advertised miniatures at five guineas and portraits at forty shillings each and there is a record of a wine and spirit licence being granted to him, while in October 1809 he advertised a farm for sale. There were at least two children though one perhaps died young. Two are listed in the 1814 Muster but the only child mention on his tombstone is one son and when Maria Lewin returned to England in 1820 after her husband's death in 1819, only a son accompanied her.

Lewin's life on this side of the world may be divided into a pre-Macquarie and a Macquarie period. To the first belong his travels and the two famous works, the Prodrum Entomology of 1805 and the Birds of 1808, both published also in later editions which are noted for the occurrence of title pages used to a much later date than that appearing upon them. Even the 1805 Insects sometimes has plates on paper watermarked 1819 and 1820 and copies are known of the 1838 Birds with plates watermarked 1875.

It seems certain that Lewin intended himself to print and colour the plates of the 1805 Insects and 1808 Birds. Proof plates exist which were probably printed and coloured by Lewin and it is likely that the plates of the 1808 Birds were printed and coloured by him. Watermarks on plates in known copies show the year 1798. Either before or after Lewin's death however the plates of both works were sent to London and printed and coloured there. On these points it is important to examine Lewin's Letters to Dru Drury, already quoted, and all plates in the various editions of both works, especially plate seventeen of the 1813 copies, (twentysix in the 1822 edition and absent in 1808) to which I shall refer again.

A valuable accession to the Mitchell Library occurred in 1950 when an old scrap book was acquired containing, with other interesting drawings and engravings, fourteen plates of the Insects, coloured by hand even more beautifully than those in known complete copies. The colouring lacks the usual background wash

(x) West, Obed. - A Glimpse of Old George Street, pp. 20-21. No. XI of Old and New Sydney reprinted from the Sydney Morning Herald... by Edward Horden and Sons, 1882.

■ of the INSECTS

of pink and blue and the plates are proofs, dated and signed but unnumbered. The platemarks have been trimmed off. These may have been special artist's proofs coloured by Lewin himself and one doubts that there can have been any "edition" of the Insects in Sydney. Unfortunately the paper of the fourteen plates bears no watermarks.

The preface to the *Prodromus Entomology* gives us some information on the author's activities and hopes at the time of its publication. It is signed by his brother Thomas Lewin and runs as follows. "The contents of this little Volume are Lepidopterous Insects, indigenous of New South Wales, were there collected, painted and engraved, by the Author; and sent to London by him for publication to furnish him with the means of returning to England, his native country, after "an absence of near eight years" (x) which he has spent almost solely in the pursuit of natural history, principally in the branches, Ornithology and Entomology; in which he has in New South Wales and in Otaheite, made some hundred of original paintings; from which it is hoped he may, by the profits of this little first effort, be enabled to return and reap an honourable benefit, as their publication, under his ingenious hand, we flatter ourselves, would somewhat rebound to the honour, reputation, and increase of those branches of the sciences in Britain."

To the work on the Birds, Thomas Lewin also contributed a foreword which throws light on how the text and plates were prepared. "This little Volume is the beginning of a Work which is intended to comprehend the whole of the Birds of New Holland as they may come to the Author's hand." If he had such a work in view Lewin seems to have relinquished the idea of returning to England. He was certainly full of optimism in planning to cover the whole of the continent single-handed. The title page bears the words Vol. 1 but this was dropped in the 1822 and 1838 editions, which contain twenty-six plates instead of the eighteen in that of 1808. The plates are, like those in the Insects, most attractive and true to life. The circumstance which gives the 1808 edition its peculiar value however is not its beauty but its extreme rarity. It has a list of subscribers, sixty-seven in New South Wales and six in London. To this six we can add the copy presented to the King, now in George III's Library in the British Museum. Strange to say no copy has ever been found in Australia, all the known copies have turned up in England. Two are now in the Commonwealth National Library, one in the Mathews Collection and one in the Petherick. There is Lady Arden's copy in the Library of the Royal Geographical Society of Australasia, South Australian Branch, and Sir Joseph Banks' copy in the British Museum. A fifth copy was acquired by the Mitchell Library in 1950, leaving one of the six copies subscribed for in England unaccounted for and making six known copies counting that in George III's Library. It looks as if something happened to the copies destined for New South Wales. Perhaps the ship bringing them out was wrecked or they were ruined by sea water or some other accident before or during the voyage. The latter supposition seems the more probable as there is no record of the loss of a ship on the way to Australia about the time the edition should have been on the water. Lewin advertised in the *Sydney Gazette* of November 20th 1808 that he was expecting its arrival so it seems that it was duly despatched to the ship. Were it not that no copy subscribed for in this country appears to have survived, one would assume that the edition had arrived and had been distributed.

If the 1808 edition arrived safely there is less reason for the existence of a curious Sydney edition of 1813, which is almost as rare. Eight copies may exist though the location of only seven is known, one in the Mathews Collection in the Commonwealth National Library, one in the Public Library of Victoria, one in the

(x) Nearly eight years since planning to leave England in 1798-9?

Mitchell Library, two in the Dixon Collection, one in the General Reference Section of the Public Library of New South Wales and one in the British Museum, Department of Natural History. The possible eight was advertised by Quaritch in 1868. This rare volume is the first illustrated book on natural history to be published in Australia. The printer was George Howe and the typography is quite creditable.

There are a number of points about this 1813 edition which make it a bibliographical curiosity apart from its rarity. In the first place the titlepage and text are new. The 1808 title runs "Birds of New Holland, with their Natural History" and bears the words "Vol. 1.", the 1813 title is "Birds of New South Wales", etc. as in Lewin's advertisements for the 1808 edition in the Sydney Gazette on September 14th 1806, and November, 20th, 1808. The words "Vol. 1" are significantly dropped. Lewin had by then apparently given up hope of a work in several volumes although he had prepared extra plates. Of the eighteen plates in the 1808 and 1813 editions, one appears only in the London and one only in the Sydney publication, and these two plates are among the twenty-six in the editions of 1822 and 1838. Turning to the Text we find titles and descriptions in 1813 shorter than in 1808 and lacking all scientific names.

It is not surprising that the Sydney edition is much smaller than the handsome folio of 1808 for the Colony was very short of paper. It is a folio but a small one cut to less than 11 inches by 9 inches, so that the volume looks like a small quarto, the plates being trimmed to match. It is the plates which give us a second group of bibliographical curiosities. The imprints are in many cases trimmed off, but, where they are found, they are dated from December 1804 to February 1805 instead of 1808 as in the London edition. There are no numbers and the fourteenth plate lacks the inset details of the bird's head and tongue which occur on the corresponding number III in the 1808 edition. The order of all the plates differs. Most of them in the 1813 edition are clearly earlier plates but some are variant drawings. The same bird is portrayed but in a different position and with a different plant, a particularly interesting feature because the botanical specimens drawn by Lewin in both the Insects and the Birds add to the charm and scientific value of the two works. The variants may have been specially printed by Lewin for the Sydney Book, (copies of the last plate in the 1813 edition occur on paper watermarked 1811), but one cannot help deducing, after noting the rarity of the work, the early state of some of the plates, the variants, and the extra plate, that Lewin made up a few copies only to satisfy subscribers to a lost 1808 edition.

There are two circumstances which reinforce this opinion. Firstly, it seems that if Lewin had supplied 1813 copies to all the Australian subscribers more would have turned up. Secondly, with a few minor changes in wording, spelling and punctuation, fifteen descriptions of birds from the 1813 edition were printed by George Howe on pages 78 to 80 of the New South Wales Pocket Almanac for 1821, under the title, "A Colonial History of Birds (Furnished by the late eminent Mr. Lewin.)" The printer may have wished to fill out his almanac with information on natural history but he may also have printed what text he had of a rare work as a memorial to Lewin.

It is not possible in this short account, nor is the author qualified, to examine all the interesting ornithological details connected with Lewin's Birds, but there is one point which deserves special notice, that of the colouring of the cheek of the crested shrike. The cheek is correctly left white in plate seventeen of the 1813 edition. This is the plate which does not occur in the 1808 edition. In that of 1822, if the watermarks are early, the cheek is incorrectly coloured yellow, though copies with later watermarks and the 1838 edition have corrected the error. It seems probable that when the 1822 edition was first issued in London soon after Lewin's death, the plate had come but no coloured print had arrived.

The 1813 Birds belongs of course to the Macquarie period of Lewin's life but it has been convenient to treat it with the 1808 edition. One of Macquarie's first actions was to appoint the artist to a position which carried a salary. Lewin became Sydney coroner from 1810, at £40 a year, a sum which was doubled in 1814. He was also paid from the Police Fund for various services. For example a financial statement for the quarter ending 30th June, 1814, shows that £24 was divided between Mr. Lewin, John Warby and John Jackson "as a remuneration for their trouble whilst recently visiting the Native Tribes in the interior of the country". In 1815 he was paid for painting a coat of arms for the Supreme Court and there is evidence that Macquarie regarded him as a kind of official artist. In 1811, he executed a "transparency" as a decoration for the ball room at Government House on the occasion of a ball in honour of the Queen's birthday. The Sydney Gazette of January 19th describes it in detail. "In the center of the ball-room were the Royal Initials in chrystal, beautifully worked, suspended between festoons of leaves and flowers extending across the room, the north end of which was covered with a transparent painting (executed by Mr. Lewin in a highly finished style) the subject local, and the design peculiarly appropriate, being the representation of our Native Race in their happy moments of festivity, contrasting in silent admiration their amusements to the recreations of a polished Circle; and instead of expressing dissatisfaction at the humility of their condition, earnestly anticipating the blessing of civilization, while a striking full-sized figure, drawn in one of the most animated attitudes of the corrobori pointed with his waddy at the Church of St. Phillip, of which an accurate perspective view was given, as symbolical of the Christian Religion inviting them to happiness. Each of the portraits bore so accurate a resemblance to some familiar native as scarcely to leave a doubt that the representation was taken from the life, in whatever attitude the Artist considered best adapted to his subject; the whole of the scene receiving a warmth of colouring from the judicious representation of their fires, and the softness of expression produced by the reflected rays of the rising moon. As this part of the preparation was unexpected, the admiration was the more nervous, and none forebore the meed of praise to the performance." The Sydney Gazette reports more "transparencies" in 1815, this time taken from Russian prints and raised on a pedestal on the supper table at the Queen's Birthday Ball at Government House. The prints are described as depicting the disastrous French campaign in Russia and had been brought to Sydney on the Russian ship the "Suwarrow" the previous September.

In May the same year Lewin accompanied Macquarie on his first journey to Bathurst over the road constructed by William Cox and painted fifteen watercolours of scenes on the way. These paintings came into the possession of the Antill family and have been presented to the Mitchell Library.

Only a brief notice of Lewin's death in 1819 occurs in the Sydney Gazette. Strange to say no particulars of his career are given, though his funeral was a public one for which £86.1.2 was paid from the Police Fund and Lewin was, as we have seen, well known in the colony. His landscapes are worthy of note as well as his natural history drawings and though sometimes adversely criticised by his contemporaries, are full of interest and charm. There is in the Mitchell Library a letter from Alexander Riley in London written to Edward Riley in Sydney. It is dated 1820 and, as Riley has not heard of Lewin's death the previous August he discusses a plan, which is already on the way, for views of Sydney designed as the basis of a panorama to be shown at the Grand Panorama Building in Leicester Square. The proprietor Mr. Barker, Riley writes, "who is well acquainted with Lewin's Drawings says that as a Landscape or View Painter he is too loose and deficient to answer the purpose required... Lewin would be admirably adapted he says for any Grouping of a scene of the Natives for the Foreground, or for any picturesque Scenery, but the view of the Town must be entered into with a minute and Systematic detail which Lewin does not give to his Drawings of Sydney, at least of any that have yet been seen". We have no record of Mr. Barker executing a panorama of

Sydney but there is a famous one dated 1829 by Robert Burford, proprietor of a Panorama in Leicester Square. We do not know for certain on whose views this was based but probably on paintings by Augustus Earle, as described in the South Asian Register, Number 1, page 14.

That Lewin was to be employed on part of such a panorama indicates the esteem in which he was held in spite of some adverse contemporary opinions. The Sydney Gazette of June 28th, 1826, defending his drawings on a map of New South Wales published by Cross in London, which had been criticised in the Monitor of June 23rd as "badly drawn and badly engraved", states that he was a "man, who will ever rank as the first artist of his ^{time} in New South Wales." The best account we have of his last days is on his tombstone, recorded by A.G. Foster. "Here Rests the Body of J.W. Lewin, Esq., Coroner who departed this Life, the 27th of August, 1819. Aged 49 years. After a short illness, which he bore with Christian fortitude, Leaving a disconsolate Widow and Son to lament his Loss also felt by the few Friends who knew him. In him the Community has been Deprived of an honest man, and this Country of an Eminent Artist, in his Line of Natural History Painting, in which he excelled. He is gone, Depending upon the Mercies of his God, through an Atoning Saviour, Who Writes Our Virtues on Adamant, Our Vices on a Wave. A Friend has given this Tribute To his Memory." It is probable that he was buried first in the old Burying Ground, the site of which is now occupied by the Sydney Town Hall, and that his body was later removed to the new ground south of Brickfield Hill, known to us as the Devonshire Street Cemetery, from which the coffins and tombstones were removed to La Perouse when the Central Railway Station was built.

The tribute from "a friend" on his tombstone recalls the "Panegyric on an Eminent Artist" inserted in two copies of the Birds. Of these, the only known examples of the verses, one is in the Mitchell Library copy of the 1813 edition and bears a manuscript note, "Written by Mr. Grant". The other was reported in Francis Edwards' Catalogue 688 of 1948 as inserted in a copy of the 1822 edition on large paper, watermarked 1821 and priced at £50. It would be interesting to know who bought this item as it is the only one recorded in Australia containing plates on paper watermarked 1821. The Panegyric is dated at Parramatta, 1804, when Lewin was hopeful of completing a work covering all the birds of the new continent, but was printed in London by W. Dawson, 12 Cannon Street, City without date of printing. Its quaintly expressed eulogy is the more pleasing to us because it is by a contemporary.

PANEGYRIC

ON AN EMINENT ARTIST

Parramatta,
New South Wales.
1804.

.....

1.

NATURE! Where dwells in these Australian lands
Thy faithful Copyist? Who art expands
Thy novel beauties o'er our ancient Globe?
Who to far distant Climes thy Charms derobe?

2.

Modest, laborious, steady in his Plan,
I view, admire, venerate the Man;
And lest neglect a tender Genius blight
Cheer, Muse! his patience, usher Him to light.

3.

LEWIN! rare, beauteous plant in Genius' Vale,
 Painter! Engraver! Nature's Wooer! hail:
 Courage, thy Labours consecrate thy Fame,
 Ages to come shall venerate thy Name.

4.

When thy productions European eyes
 Gaze on and Nature; struck with glad surprise
 We think She blossoms but at LEWIN'S will;
 Thine imitations mark such wond'rous skill !

5.

Whether thine hand delineating draw
 Insect, or Bird, or crimson Warrataw;
 In each, in ALL, thine Art we can forgive,
 When things inanimate appear to live.

6.

Touch'd with delight, involuntary thought
 Rebounds to England, where (thy Labours sought)
 Her Sons UNANIMOUS shall tribute pay
 Thee! Wanderer! searching Nature's thorny way.

(Note: It is hoped that a Bibliography to accompany this Memoir will be published.
 It will not be issued by the Society but members will be advised when it is available.

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Biblionews is published monthly. Notes and queries to Walter W. Stone, 64 Young Street,
 Cremorne.

Book Collectors' Society of Australia

BIBLIONEWS

December, 1953

Monthly Letter to Members

Vol. 6, No.12

JOHN WILLIAM LEWIN

A BIBLIOGRAPHY

By

Phyllis Mander Jones, B.A.

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Foreword: This copy of Biblionews has been roneed at the Public Library of New South Wales by courtesy of the Trustees. For the Memoir to which this is a Bibliography, see Biblionews, vol. 6, no.11, November, 1953.

BOOKS BY LEWIN

Lewin drew and engraved the plates and wrote the text for two books on Australian natural history, one on insects and one on birds. The plates in the first editions are the earliest known engravings executed in New South Wales. Some were engraved before 1803 and at least a few plates of birds preceded those of insects. (Cf. Lewin's letters to Dru Drury listed below under Biography, etc. The earliest mention of his engraved plates is in his letter dated 7th March 1803, p.4, where he says he will complete the plates of insects but that he has already done plates of birds some time before.)

The first edition of the work on insects, *Prodromus Entomology, etc.* London, 1805, is the first book to be published about Australia containing plates engraved here and the 1813 edition of the work on birds, published in Sydney, is the first illustrated book published in Australia unless West's first set of views can be counted as a book. Absalom West published his first set of 12 Views in New South Wales on January 1st 1813 with a broadsheet giving title and list of plates. The imprints on the plates give the date: "Published Nov. 30th 1812".

The text of the London editions of both Lewin's works was edited by his brother Thomas Lewin. The text of the Sydney 1813 edition of the Birds was published as written by John William Lewin and the same text with one or two minor changes appears in description of 15 of the birds published by George Howe in the New South Wales Pocket Almanac 1821, pp.78-80.

THE INSECTS (2 editions)

The original manuscript sent to England by J. W. Lewin for publication is in the Library of the Linnean Society of New South Wales. It came to the Society with other books from the library of Sir William John Macleay. The manuscript, loosely stitched into a cover, has the autograph of his cousin, William Sharp Macleay: "W. S. Macleay", on the front and back fly leaves. Watermarks on the wove paper occur: "Portal & Co" without dates. Pages measure 12½" x 9¼".

There is a tp. in manuscript: "Natural History of eighteen nondescript moths with descriptions. Collected - engraved and faithfully coloured after nature by John William Lewin New South Wales [double rule] Parramatta 1804". There are 18 leaves of manuscript text and 18 proof plates coloured by hand, dated but unnumbered except 2, numbered Pl.1 and Pl.2. These are plates 10 and 12 of the London editions. The order of descriptions and plates is different from that of the London editions. The backgrounds of the plates are untinted.

Scientific names of insects and of flowers are written in pencil on the pages bearing plates. These were supplied by Alexander Macleay and Sir Edward Smith respectively.² In his MS Lewin gives only popular names. For the London editions J. W. Lewin's brother Thomas altered the titlepage, text and order of the plates. He did not follow exactly the scientific names given by Alexander Macleay.³

A manuscript note on the tp. runs: "This is the original copy of the Book afterwards published by Lewin under the name of *Prodromus Entomology!!*" There is also a manuscript note on the verso of the tp. which refers to the botanical names given by Sir Edward Smith, to Lewin and his beautiful drawings and includes the words: "The text as follows is the Autograph Manuscript of Lewin...."

At the back of the volume is a pen and ink drawing of an insect, unnamed, unsigned and undated. In the front of the volume are 10 watercolour drawings of larvae and pupae on plants. Scientific names have been added in pencil. Only 1 drawing is signed in pencil: "J.W.L. May 9th(?) 180(?) N.S.W. One other has a pencil inscription which appears to have been touched up. It reads: "W.S. Wales 17th Feb. 1828 N.S.W." Perhaps it originally read: "J. W. Lewin 17th Feb. 180(?) N.S.W." The drawings measure 8 1/2" x 6" approx. The backgrounds of the watercolours are untinted.

1. *Prodromus entomology. Natural history of lepidopterous insects of New South Wales. Collected, engraved, and faithfully painted after nature, by John William Lewin, A.L.S. of Paramatta, New South Wales. London: printed for the author (by T. Bensley) and published from the hand of his brother, T. Lewin; No.8, Agnes Circus, Old Street Road; of whom it may be had....1805. Pp.vi, [20], 18 plates coloured by hand.*

Each engraving is dated various dates in 1803. There were 4 issues of this edition. A note printed on the last page runs:

	1. s. d.
On Imperial Quarto, the Plates highly finished	
with Grounds and Interleaves, in Boards.....	2. 5. 0
Quarto Medium, well finished with Grounds and	
Interleaves, the Plates on Imperial Paper.....	1.10. 6

1 - 3. Fletcher, J.J.- Presidential address to the Linnean Society, 14th June 1920. In *Proceedings*, vol.45, 1920. Pp.570-578 are of interest for a biography of J. W. Lewin. A letter from A. Macleay, quoted on p.572, refers to his naming Lewin's plates.

Quarto Medium, without Grounds or Interleaves,
the Plates correctly coloured..... 1. 3. 6

The same, with Plates uncoloured..... 15. 6

The Book may be had of Mr. Lewin, as mentioned at
the foot of the title-page; by whom any observations
on the subject will be thankfully received.

The Mitchell Library has two copies with title page dated 1805. One is on Imperial Quarto, interleaved, one of 40 copies, height of page 14 $\frac{3}{4}$ ". The plates are on paper with watermark 1804. It would appear therefore that Lewin sent home the plates to be printed in England. The Mitchell Library has 14 loose proof plates, nos. 1, 4-7, 9-17, dated and signed but without plate nos. They are coloured by hand but lack the pink and blue background wash found in known copies of the complete work. These 14 plates have been trimmed and were found pasted into a scrap-book containing sketches by J. W. Lewin and others, purchased by the Mitchell Library in 1950. Like the 18 proof plates in Lewin's MS, see note on this above, these proofs are almost certainly coloured by Lewin himself.

Lady Arden's copy of the Birds, 1808, now in the Library of the Royal Geographical Society of Australasia, South Australian Branch, has a printed circular pasted onto the second last blank page: "Proposals for publishing by subscription, a small work of Phalaena Insects of New South Wales, with their natural history complete". This is signed by Thomas Lewin. Lady Arden has added a note: "I have heard no more of this interesting and beautiful little work to which I was a subscriber - Poor Lewin died in that country a few years after these Proposals were sent me. M.E. Arden." Lady Arden does not seem to have seen a complete copy of the Insects containing the dedication to her. After the printed circular follow 6 plates of the Insects, without numbers or titles, evidently proofs. The circular states that "specimens of the work may be seen at the publishers", but to subscribers only will it be done in that manner." (See also description of Lady Arden's copy of the Birds, 1808 below under Birds.) Reference to this circular: "Proposals for publishing etc." is made by J. J. Fletcher in his Presidential Address, (Proceedings of the Linnean Society, N.S.W., vol.45, p.572.)

The other 1805 copy of the Insects in the Mitchell Library is on Quarto Medium, not interleaved, and must have been issued later than 1819 or 1820 as the plates are on paper with watermarks of 1819 and 1820. The height of a page of this copy on Quarto Medium is 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ ", and it has an additional frontispiece as in the 1822 edition, not in the table of contents, not named or described and unsigned and undated, making 19 plates in the volume.

2. A natural history of the lepidopterous insects of New South Wales. Collected, engraved, and faithfully printed after nature, by John William Lewin, A.L.S. late of Paramatta, New South Wales. Illustrated with nineteen plates. London: Printed for J. H. Bohte...1822. Pp.vi, 19, 19 plates.

The frontispiece is not listed in the contents list, is not named or described, and is unsigned and undated.

The Mitchell Library has two copies of this edition one interleaved and the other without interleaves. Both are trimmed and in original boards with a cover ticket giving the price as £2. 2. 0. The height of a page of the interleaved copy is 10 $\frac{3}{4}$ ", and of a page of the copy without interleaves 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ ". The latter must have been issued after 1825 as the plates are on paper with watermark 1825. The General Reference Section of the Public Library of New South Wales has a copy with Plates on paper with watermark 1827.

THE BIRDS (4 editions. Part of the text was also published in the New South Wales Pocket Almanac 1821, see 2a below.)

The manuscript of three brief descriptions of birds, without binomial names, written by Lewin, together with proofs of three plates, is in the Library of the Linnean Society, Sydney. The MS is 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ " high, bound in boards, and has the autograph: "Alex. McLeay" on the recto of the front flyleaf. The birds described are Rock Warbler, Orange Breasted Thrush and Black Crown'd Thrush. (cf. Fletcher, J.J.- Presidential address, 1920, *Proc. Linn. Soc.* Vol. 45, p.574. cf. also *Proc. Linn. Soc.* Vol.26, 1901, p.540, where there is a note that Mr. Fletcher exhibited at a meeting of the Society, "copies of two published books, and some interesting relics, of John William Lewin...a few of Lewin's... unpublished drawings; also early impressions of some of his published illustrations of birds and insects... [with] MS observations." The Library of the Linnean Society of N.S.W. has no copies of the editions of the *Insects and Birds*.

1. Birds of New Holland, with their natural history. Collected, engraved, and faithfully painted after nature, by John William Lewin, A.L.S. of Paramatta, New South Wales, Vol.1. London; printed for the author; and published by J. White, Fleet Street; and S. Bagster, 81 Strand, 1808. The Letter-press by T. Bensley, Bolt Court. Pp.22, [2, List of subscribers], 18 plates.

A page of the Mitchell Library copy is 15" high. The imprints on the plates run from March 3rd to March 31st, 1808. The backgrounds of the plates are not tinted.

Of this edition only 6 copies are known. One was George III's copy and is in the British Museum. The other five known copies were subscribers' copies. One was Sir Joseph Banks' copy, it also is in the British Museum, two copies are in the Commonwealth National Library at Canberra, one in the Library of the Royal Geographical Society of Australasia, South Australian Branch in Adelaide, and one in the Mitchell Library, Sydney.

Of the two copies in the Commonwealth National Library, one is in the Mathews and one in the Petherick Collection. The former is from the Holford Collection, Dorchester House, London. G. Mathews purchased it from Messrs. Francis Edwards in 1928. Twelve months later Messrs. Francis Edwards offered Mr. Mathews a higher price for it. Petherick's copy is listed in Edwards' Australasian Catalogue, 1899, (compiled by Petherick) as No.2837 at £6.10. 0. Nos.2837 and 2838 in Edwards' Australasian Catalogue, 1899, are both copies of the 1808 Birds. They are probably the two copies listed in Book Prices Current, 1898, as having been bought by Edwards for £5 the two, at a Sotheby, Wilkinson and Hodge sale, June 17-18, 1898, of a Portion of the Library of the Right Hon. Charles George, Earl of Egmont, no.520. No.2838 in Edwards' Australasian Catalogue, 1899, is listed at £10. It is Lady Arden's copy, which was bought by Mr. S. William Silver for his library, called the York Gate Library. After his death the library was purchased for the Library of the Royal Geographical Society of Australasia, South Australian Branch, Adelaide. The Mitchell Library copy was purchased in 1950.

There were 6 subscribers to the Birds in London and 67 in New South Wales. The known copies all seem to have belonged to London subscribers. No copy has been found in Australia. George III is not listed as a subscriber and his copy must have been a presentation copy so one of the 6 copies subscribed for in London is unaccounted for. One of the London subscribers, Alexander Macleay brought his library to Australia where it passed to his heirs. Part of it was taken back to England by his son George and part, with papers and drawings, was given by George to his cousin William John⁴, afterwards Sir William Macleay, founder of the Linnean Society of New South Wales. A number of Sir William's books were in the Society's library destroyed in the Garden Palace fire of 1882⁵ but he gave books during his lifetime to rebuild the library and after his death in 1891, his widow gave other books to the library, among them the manuscript of the Insects described above⁶.

4. Fletcher, J.J.: Pres.address.Linn.Soc.N.S.W.Proc.vol.45, 1920, p.633
5. Fletcher, J.J.: Introduction to the Macleay memorial volume.
Linn. Soc. N.S.W. Syd. 1893, p.xvii.

6. Fletcher, J.J.: Presidential address. Linn.Soc.N.S.W. Proceedings, vol.45, 1920, p.574

It seems probable that the 67 copies for Australian subscribers were lost by some accident, a supposition which is strengthened by the existence of the curious 1813 edition published in Sydney.

The Catalogue of ... books etc. of the Department of Natural History of the British Museum, vol. 3, 1910, lists a copy of the 1808 edition with the word "(Wanting)" after the entry. This copy does not exist, cf. Wood, C.A. - Partially annotated catalogue of the titles on vertebrate zoology in the libraries of McGill University, 1931. In his Introduction to the literature of vertebrate zoology prefaced to this work Wood says, p. 173: "Following the scheme adopted by the Cat. Br. Mus. (Nat. Hist.) the word (Wanting) is appended to titles not for the moment in any of the McGill libraries. At the same time it is understood that the items thus indicated are on order and some of them may have, meantime, been acquired by and are actually in one of the collections." When I visited McGill University Library in November 1948 it contained no copy of the 1808 Birds.

2. Birds of New South Wales, with their natural history. By John William Lewin, A.L.S. Sydney: Printed by G. Howe, 1813. Pp. [38, (rectos of text pp. are blank)], 18 plates.

The largest known copy is in the Dixon Library and has pages 10.15/16 x 8 1/2. The plates are trimmed to the platemarks and within them, especially at the top and often at the base. The backgrounds of the plates are not tinted.

Only 7 copies are known. 1 is in the Mathews Collection at the Commonwealth National Library, 1 in the Public Library of Victoria, 2 in the Dixon Library, 1 in the General Reference Department of the Public Library of New South Wales, 1 in the Mitchell Library and 1 in the British Museum, Department of Natural History.

I have no information on the history of copies except of those in the Mitchell Library, in the General Reference Department of the Public Library of New South Wales and of one of the copies in the Dixon Library.

The Mitchell Library copy was bought from Messrs. Francis Edwards in 1932 and is the copy bought by that firm for £28 at Sotheby's sale on November 17th, 1931, when it was one of a number of items, "The Property of an English Gentleman, resident on the continent". Inserted after the tp. is one of two known copies of a single sheet with verses entitled Panegyric of an Eminent Artist, Parramatta, New South Wales, 1804. A note on these verses is given below under Grant. - Panegyric etc. in the section on Biography.

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The copy in the General Reference Department of the Public Library of New South Wales was bought in 1886 from Mr. Gurner. It is bound in dark green half leather with sides of red marbled paper. In the lower right hand corner of the inside front cover is the ticket of J. Pownceby, Book-Binder, 45 Swanston St., Melbourne.

One of the copies in the Dixon Library, not the larger, has a manuscript entry on the recto of the second original flyleaf (the two flyleaves are of wove paper with watermark J Whatman 1794): "18 plates. A.J. King recd. January 6th 1817". Governor P. A. King subscribed for 2 copies and his wife, Anna Josepha, for 1 copy of the 1808 edition. They sailed for England on February 10th, 1807 and King died at his residence at Lower Tooting, Co. Surrey, on March 9th, 1808. Mrs. King died in 1844. A collation made in the Mitchell Library about 1923 notes that this flyleaf "has in MS the words 18 plates and three inscriptions of previous owners." Two erasures have since been made on this flyleaf. The copy has been rebound in full kangaroo, the original grey marbled paper front cover and grey paper back cover being preserved.

The plates of the other Dixon copy, the largest copy known, have printed labels pasted on their lower edges giving plate number in arabic figures, a popular name and a scientific name with authority. The names do not correspond with those in the 1808, 1822 or 1838 editions.

The difference in title in the 1813 edition is noteworthy as it agrees with Lewin's advertisements for the 1808 edition in the Sydney Gazette, Sept. 4th, 1806, p.1 and Nov. 20th, 1808, p.1. The changed title also occurs in the 1822 and 1838 editions.

The preface by T. Lewin and the list of subscribers of the 1808 edition are not given. The text of the 1813 edition (by J.W. Lewin as mentioned above) differs from and is shorter than that of the 1808 edition, only popular names are given and these not in exactly the same words. No plate numbers are given and the imprints of the plates, where they are not trimmed off, run from December 12th, 1804 to Feb. 27th, 1805. The plates are thus earlier states than those of the 1808 edition, which are all dated in March 1808.

The order of the plates differs from that of the plates in the 1808 edition though it is the same in all known copies of the 1813 edition in Australia. Plate 7, *Tipra gularis*, the crimson throated manakin is missing but there is an extra plate, no.17 in the 1813 edition, entitled the crested shrike. It is noteworthy that the cheek is correctly coloured white and that in 1822 copies with early watermarks it is yellow, a mistake corrected in 1822 copies with later watermarks and in the 1838 edition.

Some evidence corroborating the probability that Lewin himself printed and coloured the plates of the 1813 edition and that he had a special reason for having this edition published may be deduced from a study of the plates, the paper and the watermarks. Apart from the substitution of plate 17, the crested shrike, in 1813, for plate 7, the crimson throated manakin of 1808, plate 18 (mountain bee eater) in all known 1813 copies and plates 1 and 2 (scarlet and black warbler and variegated warbler) in the 1813 copy in the Mitchell Library are different plates. Plate 14 of the 1813 edition, warty face honeysucker (plate 3 of the 1808 edition) is the same engraving but an earlier state apart from the date for the detailed drawings of the bird's head and tongue are missing.

The text pages of all copies in Australia are printed on pieces of laid paper, the chain lines vertical and the watermark near the centre of the page. The watermarks vary: a crown and shield bearing a horn above the initials C A, "C. Ansell 1809", or "Ansell 1809". The tp. is on wove paper with the watermark: "W & S Sharp".

The plates are on pieces of paper which are probably from sheets cut in quarters. When on laid paper, the chain lines are horizontal and the watermarks occur, usually half visible, on the side edge or on the edge oversewn in the binding. They vary: part of the device fleur de lys on an urn above the initials E & P, part or whole of "Edmeads & Pine", "1802". When on wove paper the watermark "J Whatman 1811" occurs. The quarter sheet size is interesting for in a letter to D. Drury, dated March 7th, 1803, Lewin wrote when asking for paper: "it will be best to cut it up in quarters & pack it in small double cases with pitch Both inside & out which will prevent it from spoiling by the salt water."

It is of special importance to note that wove paper with the watermark "J Whatman 1811" is used for plate 18 in four of the known copies, those in the British Museum, Department of Natural History, in the Commonwealth National Library, in the Mitchell Library and in the General Reference Library of the Public Library of New South Wales. In these the engraving of the mountain bee eater faces the opposite way to the engraving of this bird in the 1808 edition. In three of these four copies the bird is also perched on a large branch instead of on a spray of red berries, *Elaeodendron australe*. In the Mitchell Library copy a spray of this plant is added to the large tree branch. Plate 18 in the Mitchell Library copy is thus unique, as are also plates 1 and 2, also on wove paper and showing drawings of the scarlet and black warbler and of the variegated warbler different from those in all other copies.

The explanation of these peculiarities and of the rarity of

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the 1813 edition may be that the 1808 copies for Australian subscribers were lost and that Lewin got out a very limited number of the Sydney 1813 edition to satisfy subscribers who had paid for their copies. Perhaps the manuscript note on one of the Dixon copies: "A. J. King recd. January 6th 1817" records the arrival in England of the copy for which Mrs. P. G. King had subscribed. It looks as if Lewin made up sets of 18 plates for a few copies in 1813, using pulls of the plates before he sent them to England for the 1808 edition, as well as two discarded plates (1 and 2 of the Mitchell copy) and printing an extra plate, no. 17 the Crested Shrike and one discarded plate, no. 18 of the 1813 edition, which is on paper watermarked 1811, for some copies. He may also have printed plates 1 and 2 of the Mitchell copy at the same time as they are also on wove paper, with no watermark but similar to that of plate 18. He probably also coloured the 1813 copies though plate 6 of the copy in the General Reference Department of the Public Library of New South Wales has the throat of the black crown thrush wrongly coloured yellow. Plate 6 of one of the Dixon copies also shows traces of the yellow having been washed off.

- 2a. A colonial history of **b**irds. (Furnished by the late eminent Mr. Lewin.) In New South Wales Pocket Almanac. G. Howe, Sydney, 1821, pp. 78-80.

Descriptions of 15 of the birds are given. They are in the same order as in the 1813 edition, the plates omitted being plate 8, Black Crown Thrush, and plates 17 and 18, Crested Shrike and Mountain Bee-eater. Except for one or two minor changes in wording and a few changes in spelling and punctuation, the names and text are the same as in the 1813 edition.

3. A natural history of the birds of New South Wales, collected, engraved, and faithfully painted after nature, by John William Lewin, A.L.S. late of Paramatta, New South Wales. Illustrated with twenty-six plates. London: Printed for J. H. Bohte, foreign bookseller to His Majesty, 4, York-Street, Covent Garden; by G. Schulze, 13, Poland Street. 1822. Pp.[4], 26, 26 plates.

A page of the Mitchell Library copy is 14 $\frac{3}{4}$ " high. No scientific names are given and the preface of the 1808 edition is omitted. The backgrounds of the plates in coloured copies in the Mitchell Library and in the Public Library of New South Wales, General Reference Department, are not tinted except in a copy with 1875 watermark in the latter library.

The arrangement of plates 1-18 is the same as that of the 1808 edition but the popular names given correspond more closely with those in the 1813 edition. Part of the imprints on the plates

have been erased, only the signature and the words "New South Wales" are left. Plates 19, 20, 22 and 23 are unsigned. Some plates are numbered in roman and some unnumbered. Plates 19-26, which did not appear in the 1808 edition, are unnumbered or numbered in pencil with arabic figures. Plate 3, which is numbered in pencil in arabic in the copy of the 1808 edition in the Mathews Collection, is also unnumbered or numbered in pencil in the 1822 edition.

The watermarks in various copies are of various dates, some later than 1822. No copy in the Mitchell Library, the Public Library of New South Wales General Reference Department, nor in the Commonwealth National Library has plates watermarked earlier than 1825. The tp. and text in many copies are on paper watermarked 1821 but the plates must have been printed as required. In Francis Edwards catalogue no.688, 1948, Item 932 is a copy of the 1822 edition quoted at £50. The plates are described as being on paper watermarked 1821. This copy was also interesting because it contained the broadside sheet: "Panegyric on an eminent artist", the only other known copy of which is in the Mitchell Library copy of the 1813 edition.

Some copies with the imprint 1822 on the tp. contain plates bearing the watermark: "J Whatman 1875". These copies are printed in different type from that of earlier 1822 copies. Copies with this 1875 watermark have plates numbered in roman throughout. In these copies the word "Warty" (Plate III) is spelt correctly both in the table of contents and in the text. In 1822 copies with earlier watermarks it is incorrectly spelt "Waty". It is also incorrectly spelt "Waty" in the 1838 edition.

Plate 26, Crested Shrike, has an incorrect yellow check in coloured copies of the 1822 edition with earlier watermarks but is correctly left white in the 1838 edition and in 1822 copies with 1875 watermarks. These copies with 1875 watermarks have colouring similar to that found in 1838 coloured copies and the backgrounds are tinted.

There is a copy in the Mitchell Library in original boards with ticket on the front cover giving title, etc. and price £3. 3/-.

4. A natural history of the birds of New South Wales, collected, engraved, and faithfully painted after nature, by John William Lewin, A.L.S. late of Paramatta, New South Wales. New and improved edition, to which is added a list of the synonymes of each species, incorporating the labours of T. Gould, Esq., N. A. Vigors, Esq., T. Horsfield, M.D., and W. Swainson, Esq. London: Henry G. Bohn, 4, York Street, Covent Garden. MDCCCXXVIII. Pp. [6], 26, 26 plates.

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A page of the Mitchell Library copy is 14 $\frac{3}{4}$ " high. The "Index of Synonymes" is headed by a "Prefatory Note", which states that the plates are "carefully and accurately coloured from specimens... lent... by Mr. Gould." The plates are numbered in roman throughout. Plate XXVI, Crested Shrike, has correct white cheek feathers. The backgrounds are tinted. There are no signatures on plates 19, 20, 22 and 23.

The type of the tp. is different from that of the 1822 edition. Apart from the "Index of Synonymes", the text is the same as that of the 1822 edition and is in the same type. This is clear when we examine the watermarks. The watermark on the tp. is dated 1838, the watermark on text pages is dated 1821 and that on plates where found is dated 1843 or 1838. The word "Faty" is spelt incorrectly both in the table of contents and in the text.

DRAWINGS AND PAINTINGS

A(a) Views: Watercolours in or on loan to the Mitchell Library (M.L.) and in the Dixson Collection

1800. View of Sydney, possibly by J. W. Lewin; about 1800. 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 23 $\frac{3}{4}$ ". Presented to the Mitchell Library by A. M. Ritchie, Esq.

1801. Sketch...taken on the banks of Paterson's River... the Colonel's quarters for the night. 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 13 $\frac{3}{4}$ ". Unsigned and undated but with old inscription in scrapbook in which it was found. Paterson and Lewin were with Grant in the Hunter River District in 1801. In a portfolio entitled: Australian paintings, D388. (M.L.)

1808. Sydney in 1808. 15" x 29 $\frac{3}{4}$ ". Unsigned. Presented by F. H. Wilson, Esq. A view from the west side of the cove.

Sydney Cove, 1808 [head of the cove.] 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 20 $\frac{1}{2}$ " approx. Signed "J. W. Lewin A.L.S. Sept. 4, 1808. New South Wales." Bequeathed to the National Art Gallery of N.S.W. by Miss Banning. Transferred to the Mitchell Library.

Sydney Cove, 1808 [west side.] 11" x 20 $\frac{1}{2}$ " approx. Signed "J. W. Lewin A.L.S. Sept. 4, 1808. New South Wales." Bequeathed to the National Art Gallery of N.S.W. Transferred to the Mitchell Library.

Sydney Cove, 1808 [west side .] 11" x 21 $\frac{1}{4}$ " approx. Unsigned. (M.L.)

1809. Five views: Yorkton, Port Dalrymple; View in Colonel Paterson's garden at Yorkton; and 3 views near Launceston by Lewin 1809 after G. P. Harris 1808. 9" x 13" approx. Unsigned but with old inscriptions on back and in scrapbook in which they were found. In a portfolio entitled: Australian paintings, D388. (M.L.)

St. Phillip's Church, Sydney, 1809. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 8". Unsigned but with old inscription in scrapbook in which it was found. In a portfolio entitled: Australian paintings, D388. (M.L.)

1811. View of the town of Sydney, 1811. 13" x 17" approx.
Signed on back "A View of the Town of Sydney taken from
Chiarabilly North Side of Sydney Cove by I. W. Lewin,
A.L.S. Sept. 23rd 1811." (M.L.)
1812. Sydney Cove from North Shore, 1812. 24½" x 37½" approx.
Unsigned. (D.C.)
1815. Collection of 15 views of Emu Plains, the Blue Mountains
and the Bathurst district. 1815, c.8½" x 10½". Un-
signed. Some have titles by Lewin. Lewin was one of
the official party, which accompanied Governor Mac-
quarie on his first visit to the Bathurst Plains,
April - May 1815. Lewin painted these views on the
journey and gave them to Major H. C. Antill, also one
of the party. The views remained in the possession of
the Antill family until 1937 when Mr. R. H. Antill of
Jarvisfield presented them to the Mitchell Library.
1819. Government House, Parramatta, 1819. 12¾" x 17¾" approx.
Unsigned but with old inscription at base: "J. W.
Lewin. Government House. Parramatta. 1819. (M.L.)
- Government House, Sydney, 1819. 13" x 17¾". Unsigned
but with old inscription on back: "Governt House Syd-
ney, John Watts J.D.C. March 1819." (M.L.)
- Parramatta, 1819. 17" x 24½" approx. Unsigned. (M.L.)
- Sydney, 1819, from Kirribilli Point. 17" x 24¾" approx.
Unsigned. (M.L.)
- Sydney Cove, 1819. [From Garden Island? Shows entrance
to the Cove.] 18" x 26¾" approx. Unsigned. (M.L.)
- View of Sydney about 1819, probably from the head of
Darling Harbour. 17¾" x 25" approx. Unsigned. (M.L.)
- View of Sydney about 1819, probably from the Old South
Head Road, near the site of Darlington Court House.
17½" x 24½" approx. Unsigned. (M.L.)

A(b) Views: Engravings after Lewin

- 1811 - 1814? Eleven views in the harbour of Port Jackson:
engravings after J. W. Lewin inset on: Cross, Joseph.-
Map of part of New South Wales embellished with views
in the harbour of Port Jackson drawn by J. W. Lewin.
1 sheet, c.30" x 23½", folded 8vo. London, engraved and
published by J. Cross 1825.

1812? A View of the Banks of the River Hawkesbury in New South Wales. Engraved by W. Preston from the Original Painting by I. W. Lewin, F.L.S. in the possession of Mrs. Macquarie: To whom This Plate is most Respectfully Dedicated: by her Obliged Servant. A. West. c.12" x 17 1/4" (platemark.) The view measures 9 1/2" x 15 1/2". Published June 4th 1813 by A. West, Sydney.

No.20 in: West, Absalom.- Views of New South Wales. Two sets, each containing 12 views, were published by West with broadsheet title and list of contents to each set. The broadsheet for the 1st set is entitled Views in New South Wales, that for the 2nd set, Views of New South Wales. The 1st set broadsheet is dated January 1st, 1813 and that of the 2nd set is dated September 12th, 1814. All views in the 1st set are dated in their imprints: Published Nov. 30th 1812, those of the 2nd set are not all dated, dates of publication given are from Nov. 30th 1812 to 1814.

B. Natural History Drawings. Watercolours in the Mitchell Library (M.L.) and two flower paintings on oiled paper in the Dixon Collection (D.C.)

Note: There is a record that there are also drawings of flowers, probably similar to the collection listed below (C.304), in the Herbarium of the Botanic Gardens, Sydney, presented in 1905 by Miss Goldfinch, great great granddaughter of Governor King. (Cf. Linnean Society of N.S.W. Abstract of Procs. July 26th, 1905: Notes and Exhibits.) There are also 10 drawings of larvae and pupae placed in the original MS of the Insects, now in the Library of the Linnean Society of N.S.W. See above under Books by Lewin, Insects. Other natural history drawings in Lewin's style are in the possession of a descendant of the King family.

Undated

Three undated drawings. Old inscriptions in the scrapbook in which they were found attribute them to J. W. Lewin. Three other dated drawings (see below 1802 and 1809) were also in this scrapbook. Now in a portfolio entitled Australian paintings. D388. (M.L.)

The ground parrot of New South Wales. 9 1/2" x 9 1/2".
[Grevillia.] 13 1/2" x 9".
[Orchid.] 11 1/2" x 8 3/4".

Elephant Fish, *Callorhynchus antarcticus*. 11 $\frac{3}{4}$ " x 17 $\frac{3}{4}$ ".
Unsigned. M.L.

Little saw shark, *Pristiophorus cirratus*. 13 $\frac{3}{4}$ " x 20".
Unsigned. M.L.

1802. Two flower drawings now in a portfolio entitled Australian paintings. D388. (See note above under Undated Drawings.) (M.L.)

[*Hibiscus heterophyllus*.] 12" x 9". Signed
"I. W. Lewin, 1802. N.S.W."

[One of the Leguminosae.] 10" x 7 $\frac{3}{4}$ ". Signed
"I. W. Lewin, 1802. N.S.W."

- 1803 - c.1808. Collection of 255 drawings of the flora of New South Wales on sheets up to 16" x 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ " approx.
C 304. (M.L.)

A large no. of the sheets are numbered, one "269". Nearly all are unsigned and undated but 4 are signed and dated various dates 1803 - 1806. Determinations have been added in manuscript by Allan Cunningham and J. H. Maiden. When acquired in 1911 the collection was accompanied by a slip bearing a manuscript note: "Drawn by I. W. Lewin 1806 - 1808 artist in those days." The collection was originally in the possession of the family of Governor P. G. King.

1805. Waratah. Watercolour? and oil. 20 $\frac{3}{4}$ " x 16 $\frac{3}{4}$ " approx.
Signed "I. W. Lewin. Nov^{br} 20, 1805. New, South, Wales."
(D.C.)
1806. Gynea or Giant Lily. Watercolour? and oil. 21 $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 17 $\frac{1}{2}$ " approx. Signed "I. W. Lewin A.L.S. New South Wales June 19th 1806." (D.C.)
1808. *Crinum pendunculatum* R Br. coastal N.S.W. 1808. 21" x 16 $\frac{1}{2}$ ". Signed: "I. W. Lewin. A.L.S. New South Wales. Decembr. 14th, 1808."
1809. A Bengal cow and her calf, English cross, one year old, Launceston. 6" x 9 $\frac{1}{4}$ ". Signed "I. W. Lewin 1809". The sketch has been pasted onto a piece of yellow paper before insertion in the scrap-book in which it was found. An inscription, the title given above, is written in an old hand in the scrap-book. The sketch may be after G. P. Harris. It seems unlikely though possible that Lewin visited Port Dalrymple in 1809. (See also 1809. Yorkton etc. above under Views.) During Grant's

... Austral-
x 20.
x 17.
voyage to the Hunter River in 1801 Lewin had been associated with Paterson. The latter was Lieut.-Governor in N.S.W. from January 1st 1809 to January 1st 1810. Perhaps he brought this and other drawings by G. P. Harris to Sydney in 1809 and lent them to Lewin. This drawing of a Bengal cow and her calf, signed and dated by Lewin is the only evidence so far found of a possible visit by him to Port Dalrymple.

1810. Duck-billed Platypus (*Ornithorynchus Paradoxus*), 1810. 16½" x 20½" approx. Signed "I. W. Lewin New South Wales. 1810." (H.L.)

1815.

BIOGRAPHICAL AND CRITICAL MATERIAL

A. MANUSCRIPTS. (M.L., Mitchell Library)

a. Private Papers

1798 - 1803. Drury Papers.

(Photostats in the Mitchell Library of original manuscripts in the British Museum of Natural History.)

Lists of goods and 4 letters from Lewin to Dru Drury, 1798 - 1803.

M.L. A358.

1801 - 5? King Papers.

Dr. J. Harris to P. G. King, June 25, 1801, Lewin has found new birds in Hunter River District, Vol.8, p.44. M.L. A1980/2.

Rout (sic) ... toward the Mountains [1805?]; with map, in P. G. King.- Extracts from Mr. Caley's Observations. M.L. C118.

1801 - 8. Banks Papers. M.L. Vol.4, A78/3; Vol.7, A78/6; Vol.22, A85.

P. G. King to Sir J.B. Ap.-Aug. 21, 1801, Lewin leaving Sydney on sealing expedition. Vol.7, p.123.

Copy of King's Orders to Grant 9th March, 1801. Lewin to accompany Grant as collector on Bee (marginal note: "not sent"), Vol.7, p.116.

H. Paterson to Sir J.B. Mar. 10 - 14, 1804, bad drawing of koala sent to Sir J. B. Vol.4, pp.161-2.

T. Bligh to Sir J.B. Feb. 7, 1807, two drawings of colah sent to Sir J. B. Lewin is publishing drawings of birds and insects, Vol.22, p.245.

Signatures of Lewin^{on} address to Bligh, Jan. 1, 1808, Vol.22, p.302; and on address to Paterson, May 1, 1808, Vol.22, p.376.

1803. Hassall Papers.

Accounts 1803. Hassall's Day Sales Book, various pp. M.L. A861.

1811 - 1820. Riley Papers.

A. Riley has commissioned paintings from Lewin, pp.164, 177, in Letters from Sydney. M.L. Large Safe, p.h.15, no.3. Views of Sydney by Lewin are not considered suitable for panorama, pp.15-17, in Riley Papers.

M.L. A 110.

1815. Macquarie Papers.

Lewin accompanied Macquarie on tour over mountains, April 1815, in Macquarie's Journal, "Tour to the New discovered country in April 1815", p.1. M.L. A779.

1811 - 1819. Wentworth Papers.

Various references to salary as coroner, remuneration for visiting native tribes, drawings for Government, and to funeral expenses, paid from Police Fund, 1811 - 1819. M.L. D1.

b. Official Records

Note: References to Lewin and his wife occur in the published Historical Records of New South Wales and Historical Records of Australia. The indices vols. 3-6 of the former and Series 1, vols. 2-10 of the latter list these references. Microfilms of the original records in England used in these published Historical Records are now being made. Microfilms of records in the Public Record Office are (1953) completed for the years 1788 - 1837 (approx.) and are available in the Commonwealth National Library, the Mitchell Library, Sydney, and in the state public libraries of Queensland, Tasmania and Victoria.

Bonwick Transcripts of Records in England.

Missionary, vol. 1, pp.160-161, re Lewin's trip to Tahiti, in Journal of W. Shelley, Sep. - Nov. 1801. M.L. B.T. Box 49.

Appendix to Report of Commissioner Bigge, bound volume, p.63. In N.S.W. Returns, 1819-1820, General Muster 1818. Abstract of Land and Stock, (particulars of Lewin's property and status, Nov.1818.) M.L. A2131.

N.S.W.- Colonial Secretary's Papers.- Muster-Roll. Sydney, 1814. Entries 184 and 241. See Index compiled by V. Goodin in Mitchell Library. M.L. A1942/2.

N.S.W. Government and General Orders.

Lewin paid from Police Fund as Coroner, 1818, 1819; and for paintings, 1817, pp.11, 86, 89. M.L. A339.

N.S.W. Governor's Despatches.

Coroner on inquest of child killed by Macquarie's carriage, vol.2, Dec.15, 1817. M.L. A1191.
Pension of widow, in Enclosure, Col. Sec. Estimate 1839, pt. IX, p.671. M.L. A1221.
Pension of widow 1846, in Gipps to Gladstone
- 19 -

B. CON
[Grant]

May 24, 1846. Despatches p.652. M.L. A1240.

N.S.W.- Supreme Court.- Old records. Bundle 29, item 33,
Lewin et uxor v. Thompson. M.L.

c. Later Biographical and Critical MS Notes.

MS notes in Lady Arden's copy of the Birds, 1808, now in the
Library of the Geographical Society of Australasia,
South Australian Branch. See above, p.3.

MS notes in the hand of W. S. Macleay in the original manu-
script of the Insects, now in the Library of the Lin-
naean Society of N.S.W. See above p.2. A full trans-
cript of the note on verso of tp. is as follows:
"Lewin was a good artist, but a grossly ignorant man,
who appears to have come out to New South Wales at
the public expense (as I have reason to believe) for
forgery - The engravings in this book do no manner of
justice to Lewin's beautiful drawings - The text as
follows is the Autograph Manuscript of Lewin. The
plants have been named by Sir James Edward Smith from
Lewin's drawings, but in such a manner as to do any-
thing but credit to the Knight's botanical knowledge."

The suggestion that Lewin was sent out for for-
gery is not substantiated by official records, see
Historical Records of N.S.W. vol.III, p.358.

Notes on copies of the Birds by L. F. Fitzhardinge, W. H.
Ifould and I. Leeson. M.L. A1.82.

Jones, P. Mander:- Lewin's Birds. [Notes written 1940-1953.]
M.L. Q598.291/L

May 24, 1846. Despatches p.652. M.L. A1240.

N.S.W.- Supreme Court.- Old records. Bundle 29, item 33,
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Jones, P. Mander:- Lewin's Birds. [Notes written 1940-1953.]
M.L. Q598.291/L

B. CONTEMPORARY PUBLISHED REFERENCES

[Grant,].- Panegyric on an eminent artist, Parramatta, New South Wales, 1804. W. Dawson. Printer, 12 Cannon Street City London. Broadside, 6 verses.

A manuscript note on the Mitchell Library copy, inserted in the 1813 ed. of the Birds, is written on the lower right hand corner of the broadside and reads: "Written by Mr. Grant". 2 copies only known, the Mitchell Library copy and one other reported in Francis Edwards Catalogue 688/1948, item 932, as being inserted on the endpaper of a "large paper copy of the 1822 Birds, plates on Whatman paper watermarked 1821. £50."

Sydney Gazette. Various references 1804 - 1826.

References to John William Lewin:-

- a. Works. Moths, Mar. 4, 1804. Birds, Sept. 14, 1806; Nov. 20, 1808.
- b. Art and art classes. Carmine wanted, Sept. 11, 1808. Terms for miniature and portrait painting, Sept. 18, 1808. Copper press for sale, Oct. 27, 1810. Transparent paintings, Jan. 19, 1811, Jan. 21, 1815. Drawing classes, June 6, Aug. 1, 1812. Engraving from his painting of Hawkesbury, May 29, 1813. Payment for painting of King's Arms for Supreme Court, Aug. 5, 1815. Payment for drawings for Government, Feb. 14, 1818, Aug. 28, 1819. Eminent artist, June 28, 1826.
- c. Subscriptions. To enclosure for burial ground, June 4, 1809. To road to Botany Bay, Ap. 3, 1813. To Waterloo Relief Fund, Ap. 13, 1816. To Bible Society, Mar. 15, 1817.
- d. Farms and houses. Robbery at house of, June 25, 1809. Farms, Oct. 1, 1809, Dec. 16, 1815. Premises on brickfields, Mar. 23, 1811, Aug. 28, 1813. Premises on brickfields for sale, Jan. 8, 1820.
- e. Coroner. Appointed, Oct. 6, 1810. Salary, Oct. 6, 1810; Ap. 20, July 20, Oct. 26, 1811; Feb. 1, Ap. 13, July 25, Oct. 24, 1812; Jan. 30, Ap. 24, July 31, Oct. 23, 1813; Feb. 5, Ap. 30, June 11, Aug. 6, Nov. 12, 1814; Jan. 28, Ap. 22, Aug. 5, Nov. 4, 1815; Feb. 10, May 11, Aug. 10, Nov. 2, 1816; Feb. 8, May 3, Aug. 16, Nov. 22, 1817; Feb. 14, June 6, Aug. 15, Nov. 28, 1818; Feb. 20, June 12, Aug. 28, 1819; Mar. 18, 1820.

W D V D
Foster,
f. Other entries. Wine and spirit license, Feb. 26, 1809. Parcel for, May 23, 1812. Remunerated for visiting native tribes, Aug. 6, 1814. Accompanies Macquarie across Blue Mountains, Ap. 29, 1815. Meat supplied to Government Stores, Mar. 7, 1818.

g. Death. Aug. 28, 1819. Funeral expenses, Mar. 18, 1820.

References to Mrs. Maria Anna Lewin:-

Goods for sale, May 22, 1808. Removed to Universal Warehouse, Sept. 11, 1808. House and collection of colours and tools for sale, Sept. 18, 1819. Application for administration of estate of J. W. Lewin, Jan. 8, 1820. Leaving Colony, Jan. 8, Feb. 19, 1820. Allowance to, Dec. 8, 1825.

Monitor. Criticism of Lewin's drawings on Cross's Map of New South Wales. June 23, 1826. Vol.1, p.42.

C. NON-CONTEMPORARY PUBLISHED MATERIAL

Australian Encyclopaedia, vol. 1, 1927, p.737.

Dictionary of National Biography, vol. LXXIII, 1893, p.170.
[J. W. Lewin is wrongly stated to be a brother instead of a son of W. Lewin.]

Dixson, Sir William.- J. W. Lewin. In his Notes on Australian artists. Roy. Aust. Hist. Soc.- Journal, vol. 5, 1919, pp.236-240.

Ferguson, J.A.- Bibliography of Australia, vols. 1-2, 1941-5, entries under Lewin, John William.

Fletcher, J. J.- [Note of his exhibiting Lewin MSS etc.] Linn. Soc. N.S.W.- Procs. vol. 26, 1901, p.540.

Fletcher, J. J. (editor).- Macleay memorial volume. 1893.
[The introduction, p. LXXVII, refers to Sir William Macleay's gifts of books; which were destroyed in the Garden Palace Fire, 1882.]

Fletcher, J. J.- The Society's heritage from the Macleays. (Presidential address, Special General Meeting, 14th June 1920. Linn. Soc. N.S.W.- Procs. vol. 45, 1920, pp.567-635. Notes for the remainder of the address

Note of quotations in second hand booksellers' catalogues,
auction catalogues:-

Quaritch.- Catalogue. 1868, p. 1012. No copy known in
Sydney.

Sotheby.- Catalogue. 16th - 18th Nov. 1931, p.64.

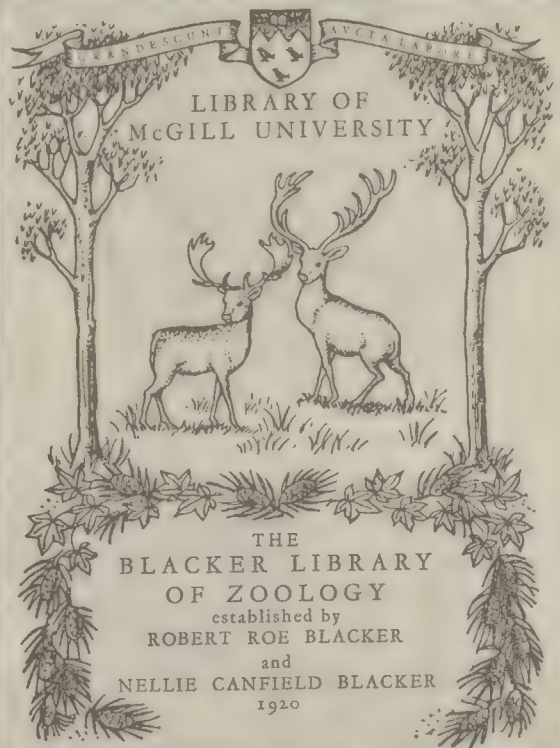
Edwards.- Edwards' Australasian catalogue; compiled by E. A.
Petherick. 1899. Items 2837, £6.10.0, 2838, £10. 0. 0.

Edwards.- 1948. Cat. 688, item 932. £50.

McGILL UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

JOHN WILLIAM LEWIN

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OFFICE OF
THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR THE
COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA,
OTTAWA.

Reply quote No. 33/12/3/49

JOHN WILLIAM LEWIN

John William Lewin, born in 1770, first appears in connection with Australia when the Duke of Portland, in a despatch to Governor Hunter dated February 6, 1798, mentioned that Lewin was to go to Sydney in H.M.S. Buffalo and added:-

"Mr. Lewin is a painter and drawer in natural history, and being desirous of pursuing his studies in a country which cannot fail to improve that branch of knowledge you will allow him the usual Government rations during his residence in the settlement."

Hunter, in a despatch dated August 15, 1799, mentions the arrival of the Buffalo on May 3, 1799, but says nothing of Lewin.

When the general muster of inhabitants of the colony was taken on from July 18 to August 15, 1800, Lewin appears as "natural history painter and botanist," employed at Parramatta, Toongabbie and George's River, all places near Sydney.

In his instructions, dated at Sydney March 5, 1801, to Lieutenant James Grant R.M. for a surveying voyage to Bass Straits in the brig Lady Nelson, accompanied by the 11-ton sloop Bee Governor King wrote:-

"I have allowed Mr. Lewin to embark on board the Bee, for the purpose of collecting, to whom you will afford such occasional assistance.



as may be in your power."

Four days after sailing from Sydney, when the vessels had reached Jervis Bay, the Bee was found unsuitable for a tender and was sent back to Sydney. Apparently Lewin came with her.

When Grant took the Lady Nelson to examine the Hunter River in June 1801 Lewin went with the party. Lieut-Colonel Paterson, in his Journal, mentions that Lewin went with him up the river in the launch. Under the date July 7 Paterson wrote:-

"Mr. Lewin remained with me at the hut preserving birds that were shot the day before and collecting wood to keep up a fire for the night.

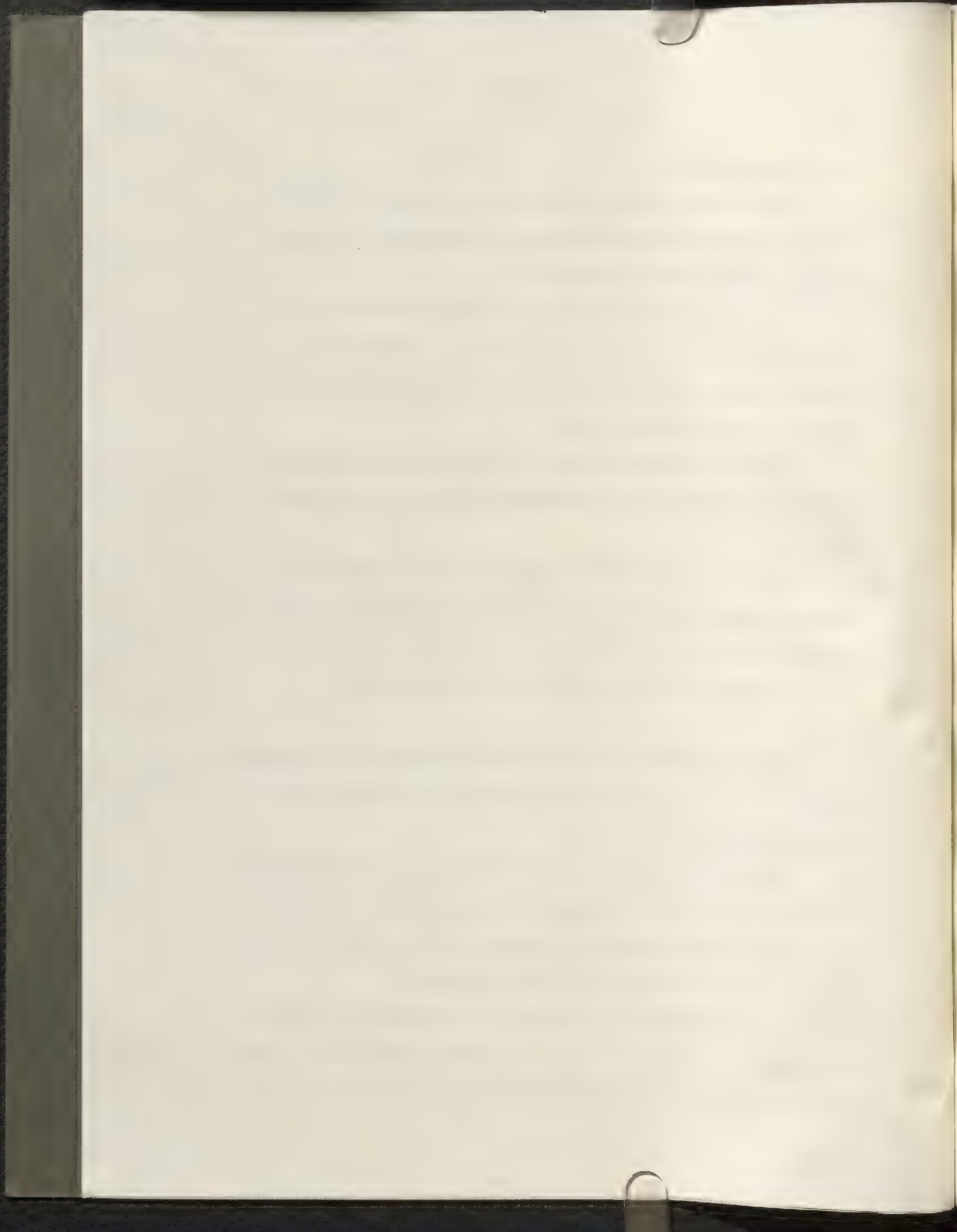
In a letter to Sir Joseph Banks dated August 21, 1801, but apparently begun in March or April King refers to sending George Caley, a collector for Banks, to the Kent Group in a sealing vessel and adds:-

"I have persuaded a Mr. Lewin, who I believe you know, to accompany him."

Nothing more seems to be known of this voyage which was, according to King's letter, made while the Lady Nelson was being refitted for the voyage to the Hunter River.

Lewin sailed on the 56-ton brig Norfolk (originally the Harbinger, built at Quebec in 1797) which sailed for Tahiti on November 8, 1801, to seek a cargo of pork. The Norfolk was wrecked at Matavai Bay on March 25, 1802. In his log Captain House of the Norfolk writes:-

"Every assistance in the power of all parties was given and the Natives kept from Thieving by Mr. Lewin and Pulpit, one of Captain Bishop's men (of the brig Venus) who took everything under their care as they came



ashore, they being armed for the said purpose; and about dark in the evening everything was housed that came on shore."

Lewin returned to Sydney in H.M.S. Porpoise, which reached Port Jackson on December 19, 1802.

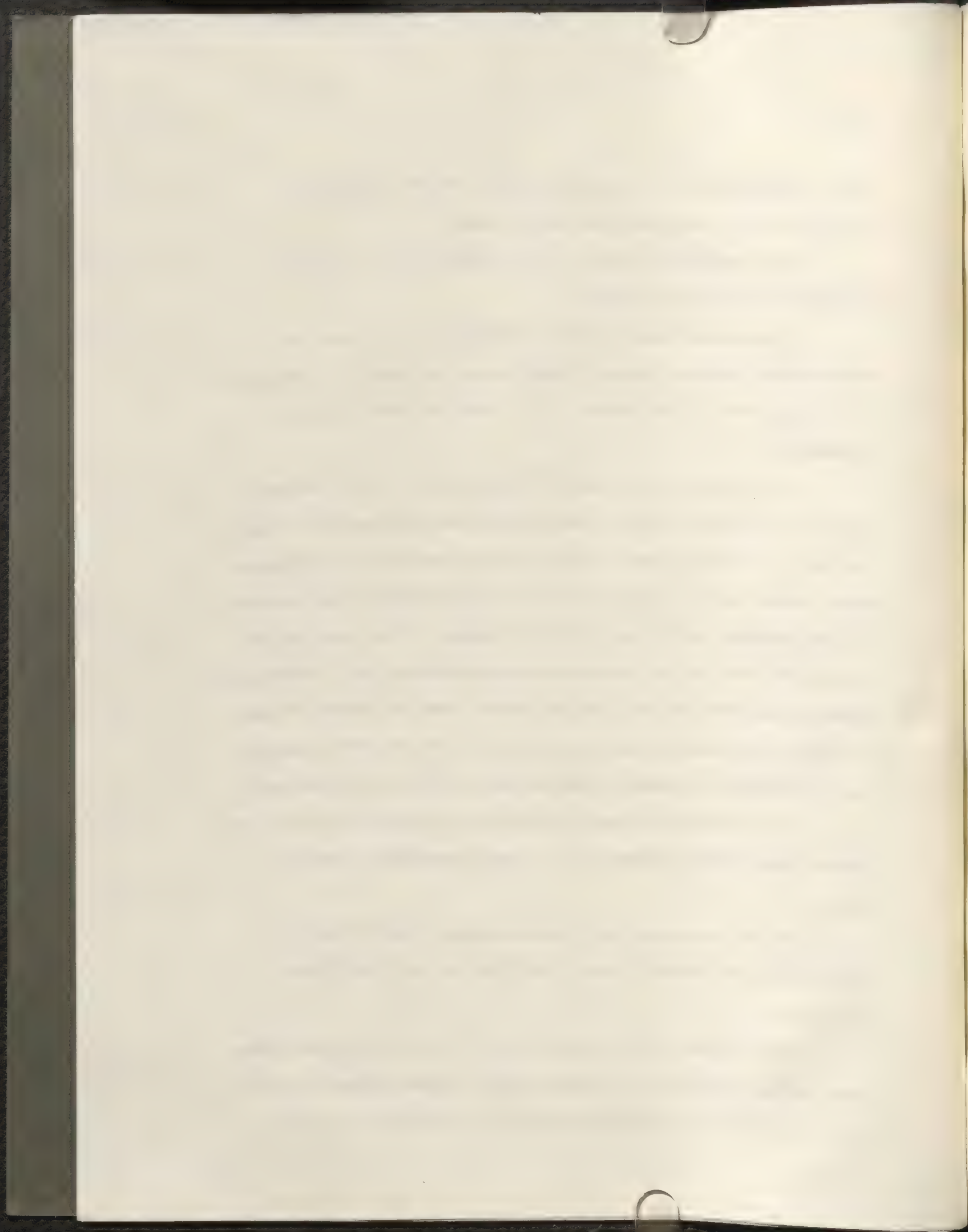
A return dated March 17, 1804, shows Lewin as a private in the Parramatta Volunteer Company, formed to meet the threat of a rebellion of the Irish convicts. By August 1, 1804, Lewin had risen to the rank of sergeant.

In a despatch to Lord Camden, dated November 1, 1805, Governor King states that he had sent Mr. Lewin and two other persons that he could confide in to "take the round of the Cowpastures and report the Number of Cattle they met with". These cattle were the descendants of cattle which had been lost and run wild soon after the founding of the colony in 1788. He says that Lewin and his companions counted upwards of 800, "besides the Numerous herds they saw and could not count". From the reports of Lewin and others King concluded that there could not have been fewer than 3,000 wild cattle at the beginning of 180⁵ and might well have been many more.

In a letter from Sydney to Under-Secretary Chapman of the Colonial Office, London, dated October 15, 1807, Deputy-Commissary Robert Fitz, wrote:-

etc. "Lewin, the naturalist, is now collecting a box of seeds of the plants ~~etc.~~ of the country, which I shall send to you by the earliest conveyance."

When ^Paterson was expected in Sydney to take over the Government which had been nominally in the hands of Major Johnston since the deposition of Governor William (Bounty) Bligh Lewin was one of those who signed an

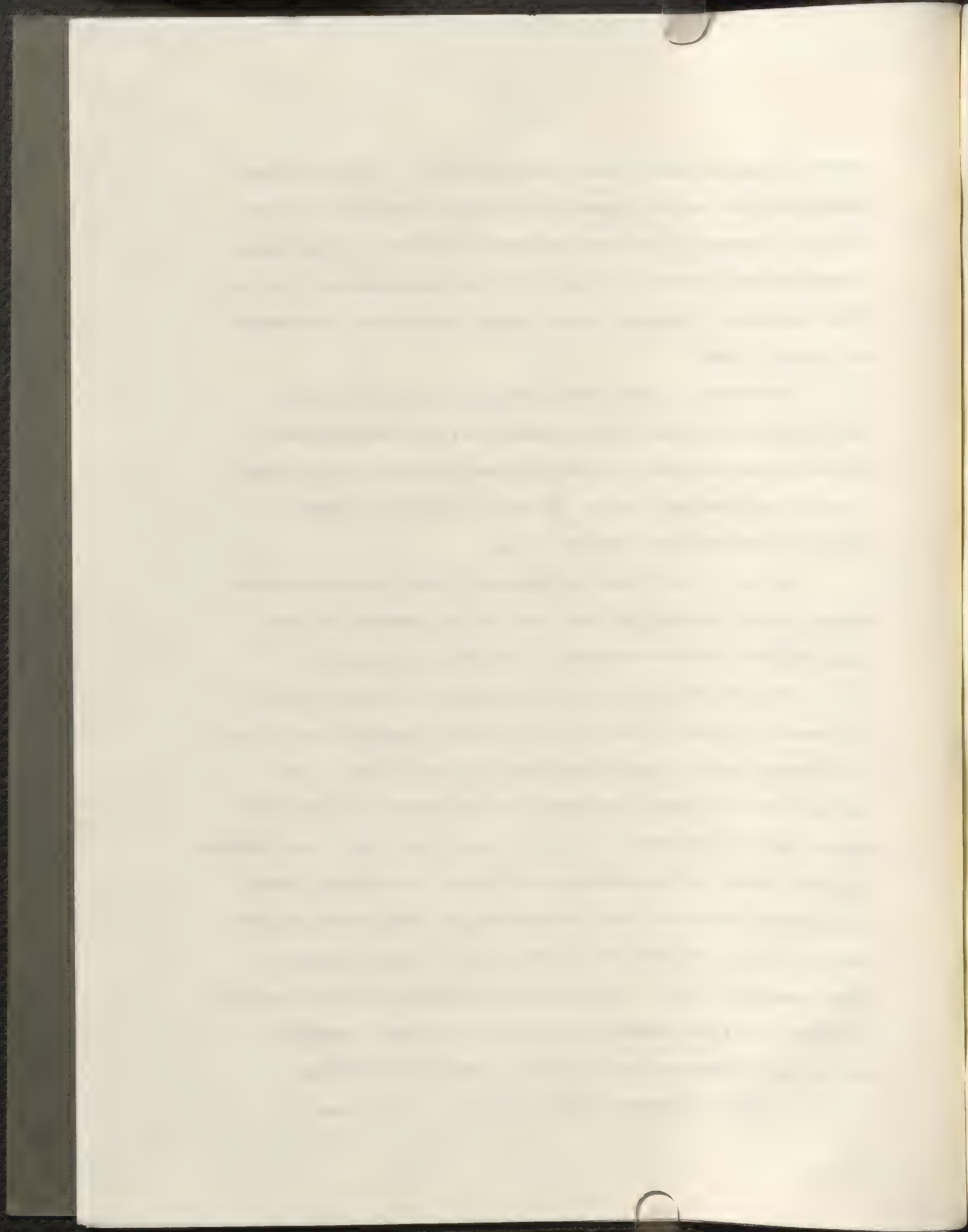


address to Paterson, dated at Hawkesbury River, May 1, 1808. The signers pledged themselves to give Paterson every support in re-establishing His Majesty's Government in the person of Governor Bligh "whom we have reason to adore for that protection and justice we experienced under his firm and steady Government". Paterson did not, however, reach Sydney from Tasmania till January 1, 1809.

On November 17, 1812, Governor Macquaire told Lord Liverpool that he had omitted in his previous despatch to report the appointment of Lewin as Coroner at Sydney, at pounds 40 a year, with Lewin and his family victualled from the King's stores. By June 1, 1815, Lewin's salary as Coroner had been raised to pounds 80 a year.

Writing to Lord Bathurst on December 15, 1817, Governor Macquarie mentions that he is sending to London more than 500 specimens of dried plants collected on Oxley's expedition to the interior and goes on:-

"Four of these Specimens were considered so rich and beautiful by the Persons who Collected them that I have on their Suggestion been Induced to get Drawings made of them by the Masterly hand of Mr. Lewin, the Gentleman whom Your Lordship mentioned in a late Dispatch as a person who might be useful in the voyage of Discovery under Lieut. King. These Drawings being made whilst the Plants retained some Share of their natural Beauty and immediately under the Eye and Direction of the Botanists who collected them their Colours and Peculiarities have been well preserved and will convey a much more perfect Idea of the Plants themselves than could possibly be obtained from a bare Inspection of the dried Specimens, especially after so long a Voyage as they are about to undergo; these Drawings I do myself the Honor to transmit to Your Lordship, as likewise one of a



Native Chief at Bathurst, whom having myself seen on My Visit to the Western country (in 1815) I can Vouch for its being an excellent Likeness. The Tourists having met with a new Description of Cockatoo and Doves nearly at the termination of the River Lachlan, as beautiful in appearance as rare I do myself the Honor to send Your Lordship a Drawing of them also.

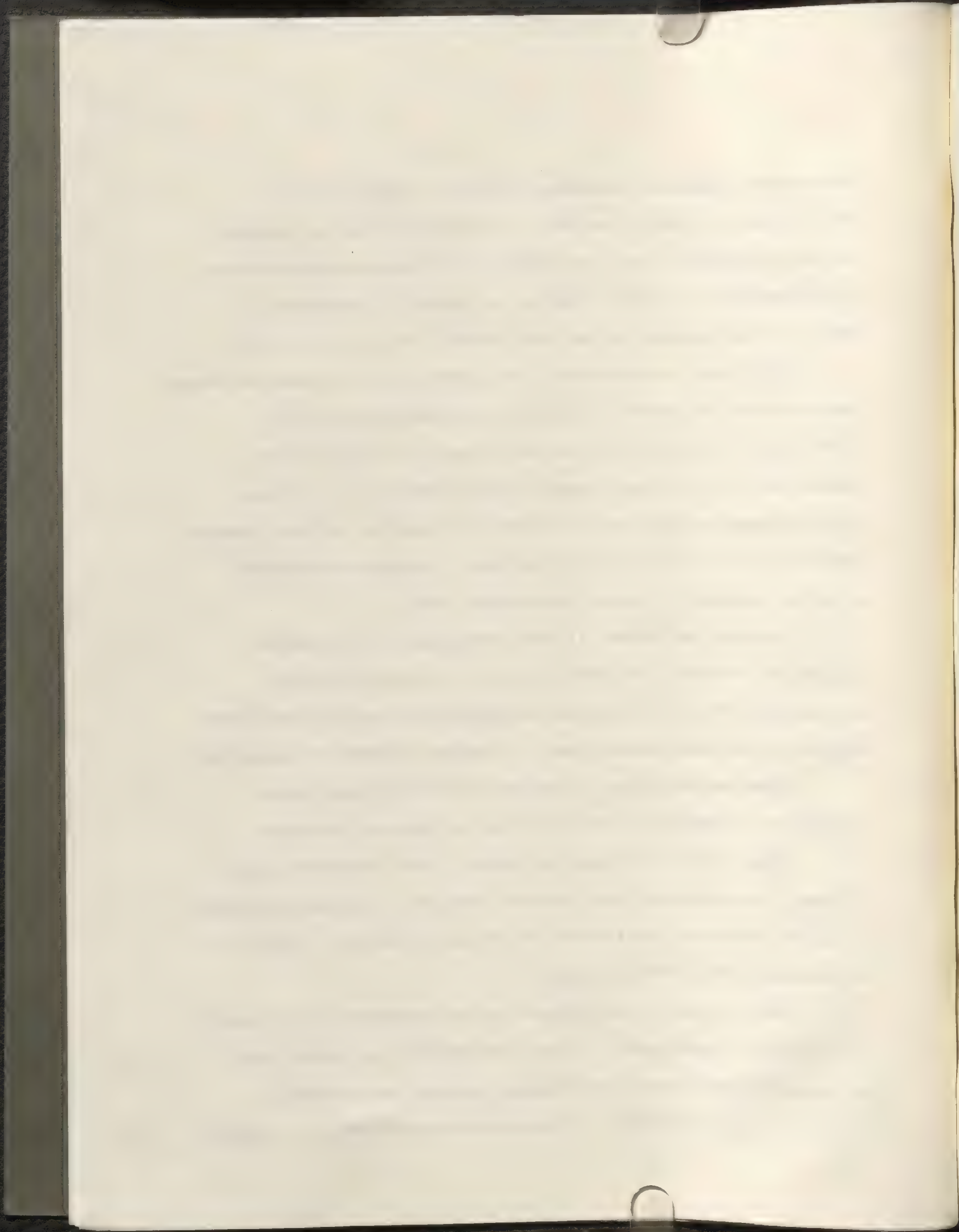
"Mr. Lewin, to whose Pencil I am indebted on this occasion, has begged leave to decline the Duty Your Lordship had proposed to honor him with on the Voyage of Discovery with Mr. King, He having a Family at Sydney that he could not Sufficiently provide during his absence, his and their Principal Support arising from his Employment as an Artist, in which Capacity, Especially as it is applied to the Description of Animals and Vegetables he is here considered to possess most uncommon Merit.

"While on the Subject, if Your Lordship should be disposed to consider as favorably of Mr. Lewin's Talents in the Line of an Artist as I have long been I would beg leave to suggest that possibly those Talents might be most Usefully Employed here in the service of Government exclusively".

After mentioning that the drawings had been entrusted to the Personal care of Captain Gill of the ship Harriet Macquarie concludes:-

"Until I shall hear from Your Lordship I shall continue to employ Mr. Lewin, as occasion may Offer, in making Drawings of such rare Productions as the New Accessions in the Western Country may afford, which I hope will be agreeable to Your Lordships wishes."

Lewin's drawing of the Bathurst chief was reproduced in John Oxley's "Journals of Two Expeditions". The new birds mentioned by Macquarie were the barred shouldered ground dove (*Geopelia himeralis*) and Leadbeater's cockatoo (*Cacatua leadbeateri*). In answering Macquarie's letter Lord Bathurst



made no reference to Lewin. In a letter written on December 21 and sent by the Harriet Macquarie mentioned that the Mermaid, under Lieut. King, had sailed that day to chart the coasts of Australia And that Allan Cunningham, the King's Botanist, had gone in her. He adds:- "Mr. Lewin, the Natural History Painter, declined going on this Expedition on account of having a family to provide for."

Lewin was one of many merchants and others who on November 19, 1818, signed a Memorial to Macquarie deprecating the prohibition imposed by London on the carriage of goods or merchandize to Australia in convict ships. Macquarie agreed with the petitioners and suspended the prohibitory order until further instructions should be received.

On March 25, 1819, Macquarie advised Bathurst that he was sending by the Shipley a case containing eight drawings by Lewin of animals, birds and plants collected by Charles Fraser, the Colonial Botanist, during Oxley's second expedition. He describes Lewin as "an eminent Artist here". This time Macquarie enclosed a detailed list of the subjects. Four were plants, three birds and the eighth a "red Kangaroo". No acknowledgement by Bathurst appears in the Historical Records.

Lewin died in Sydney on August 27, 1819. A pension of pounds 50 was given to his widow. On February 23, 1820, Macquarie advised Bathurst that Edward Smith Hall had been appointed Coroner at Sydney "in the Room of Mr. Lewin deceased".

Soon after he reached Sydney Macquarie had sent to Lord Castlereagh, the maker of the Treaty of Vienna, a painting of Sydney by Lewin.

Before Macquarie's time art was not a way of living in New South Wales. In 1808, when Lewin advertised himself as a portrait and miniature

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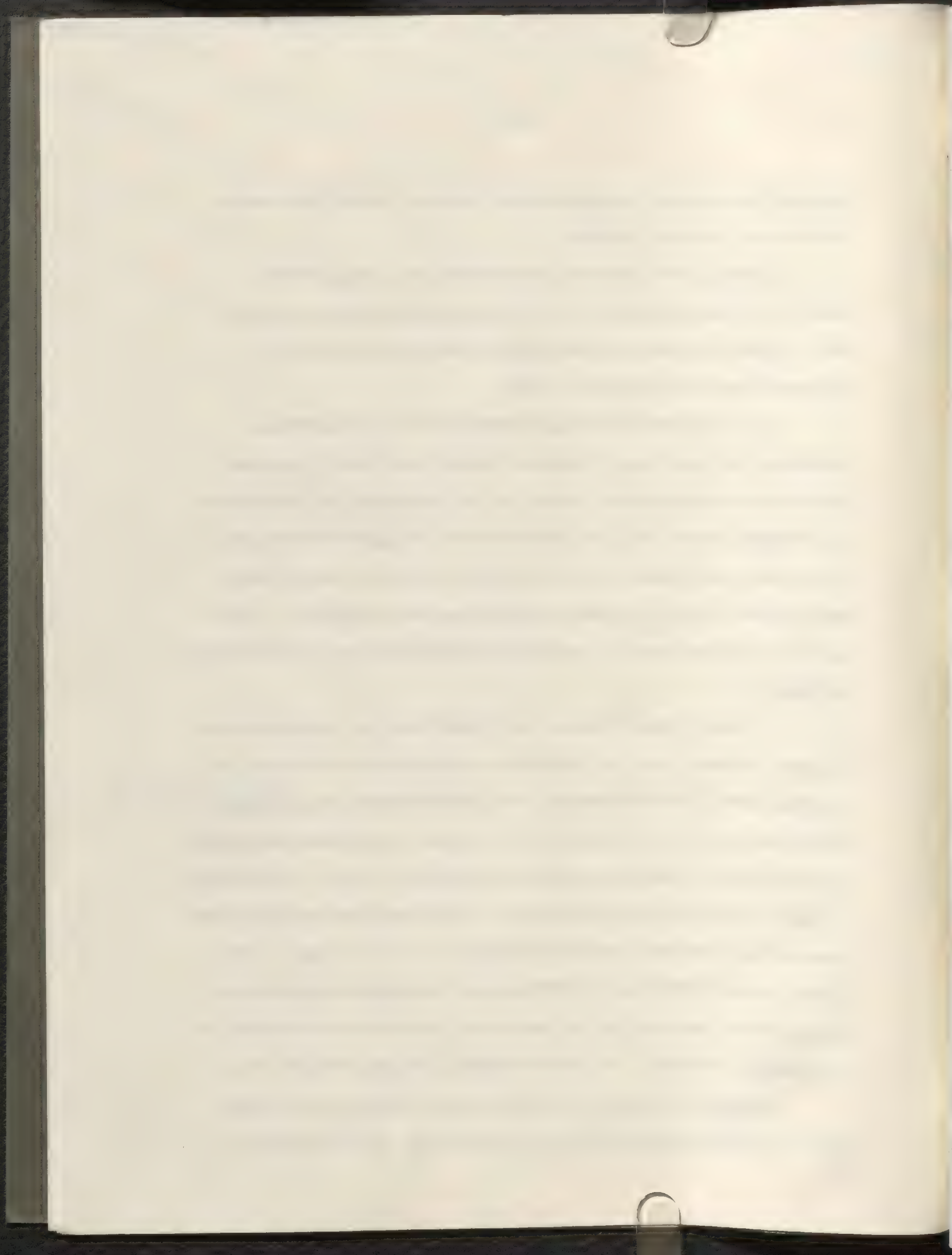
painter Mrs. Lewin had to keep an inn and a shop. In 1812 Lewin opened an Academy of Painting in Sydney.

Lewin no doubt drew the coloured plate of a fringe-crested cockatoo and the picture of the Lady Nelson entering the Hunter River which appears in Lieutenant James Grant's "Narrative of a Voyage of Discovery", published in London in 1803.

The "Prodromus Entomology - Natural History of Lepidopterous Insects of New South Wales, Collected, engraved and faithfully painted after nature by John William Lewin A.L.S. of Parramatta, New South Wales" was "Printed for the Author and Published from the hand of his brother Thomas Lewin, No. 3 Agnes Circus, Old Street, London, of whom it may be had" in 1805. It has 18 plates, drawn and engraved in Australia. The purpose of the book was "to furnish the Author with the means of returning to England".

Of Lewin's 1808 "Birds of New Holland" only six copies are known to exist, according to J. A. Ferguson's:- Bibliography of Australia, vol. 1 (1784 - 1830). Of these two are in the British Museum, one at McGill, ^{not at McGill} one in the library of the South Australian branch of the Royal Geographical Society and two in the National Library, Canberra. The list of subscribers is said to have included 67 in Australia (among them Governor Bligh, John Macarthur and John Oxley) and six in England. An advertisement in the Sydney Gazette of November 20, 1808 announced the expected appearance of the copies for Australia "in the next arrival" but none of them appears to have reached Australia. It has been thought that they were lost at sea.

Ferguson lists only six copies of Lewin's "Birds of New South Wales" published in Sydney by George Howe in 1813. The 1822 edition,



issued in London, was entitled:- "A Natural History of the Birds of New South Wales". Lewin's work on insects was republished in London at the same time.

A note in the 1838 edition, issued in London by Henry G. Bohn, states that the "whole of the Plates had been carefully and accurately coloured from specimens obligingly lent for that purpose by Mr. Gould".

located in London, was entitled - "A General History of the Birds of New
South Wales". Latham's work on birds was republished in London at the
same time.

A note in the 1838 edition, dated in London in 1837, stated
that the "birds of the New South Wales" had been carefully and accurately
coloured from specimens obligingly lent for that purpose by Mr. Gould.

